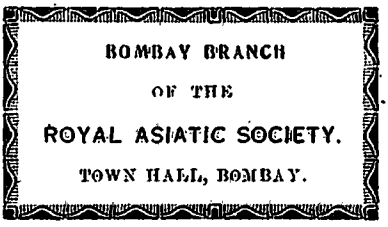
Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta
1926-30, 1930-31, 1932-33, & 1934-35 & 1940-41



Digitized with financial assistance from
Government of Maharashtra
on 01 February, 2020

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Period

From 1st April 1926 to 31st March 1930.

135373

1926-30, 1930-31, 1932-33
1934-35 & 1940-41

00135373

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1930

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Period

From 1st April 1926 to 31st March 1930.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1930

Report on the working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the period from 1st April 1926 to 31st March, 1930.

I. Period.

The last report on the working of the Library was for the period from 1st April 1923 to 31st March 1926. A report for the year 1926-27 was drawn up by the then Librarian, but was not published. A report covering the period, April 1926 to March 1929, was compiled and placed before the Library Council for their approval, in December 1929, but the Council was of opinion that as the report for the year 1929-30 was shortly due, it was appropriate that a report should be drawn up covering the four years' period, *viz.*, 1st April 1926 to 31st March 1930.

II. Administration.

(*a*) *Library Council.*—The ultimate control of the Library is vested in the Library Council, which until about the beginning of August 1929 was composed of a Chairman and four members, all nominated by the Government of India, from Calcutta. The membership of the Council is shown below, year by year.

1926-1927.

(1) The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Buckland, Kt., Bar.-at-Law, Chairman (from May 1926).

(2) R. B. Ramsbotham, Esq., M.B.E., M.A., B. Litt.,

(3) S. Khuda Baksh, Esq., Bar.-at-Law,

(4) H. C. Edmondson, Esq.,

(5) H. C. Maitra, Esq., M.A.

1927-1928.

The membership of the Council continued to be as it was in the previous year, except that Mr. Edmondson resigned the membership in March 1928; and no successor was appointed in his place.

1928-1929.

The Council consisted of the same members as at the end of the year 1927-28.

1929-1930.

The old Council continued to function till August 1929, Mr. Ramsbotham resigning his membership from the 30th June 1929. This

Council was replaced by a new Council, according to the terms of the Governmen tof India, Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. 1320, dated the 17th July 1929, published in the *Gazette of India* 10th August 1929. The New Council was henceforth to consist of (1) two representatives of the Bengal Government, nominated by them; (2) two nominees of the Calcutta University; (3) three persons nominated by the Government of India to represent interests outside Bengal; and (4) the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India as the *ex-officio* Chairman of the Council. The names of the members forming the first reformed Council, whose term of appointment is to last three years, are given below :—

R. Littlehailes, Esq., M.A., C.I.E., I.E.S., Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, *ex-officio* Chairman.

Nominated by the Government of Bengal.
- The Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. L. Buckland, Kt., Bar.-at-Law, Judge, High Court, Calcutta.
- Lt. Col. N. Barwell, Bar.-at-Law.

Nominated by the Calcutta University.
- Rev. Dr. W. S. Urquhart, M.A., B. Litt., Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University.
- Rai Bahadur Dr. U. N. Brahmachari, M.A., M.D., Ph. D., F.A.S.B.

H. G. Rawalinson, Esq., M.A., F.R.H.S., I.E.S., Principal, Poona College, Poona.

A. C. Woolner, Esq., M.A., C.I.E., F.A.S.B., Vice-Chancellor, Punjab University, Lahore.

S. Sinha, Bar.-at-Law, Patna.

Another change brought about was that the Librarian who had up to that time worked as *ex-officio* Secretary of the Library Council ceased to be so, and his place was taken by an I.E.S. officer who acts as Secretary of the Council in addition to his own duties, and receives an allowance for the work. Mr. J. R. Barrow, I.E.S., Principal, Presidency College, Calcutta, was the first Secretary to be so appointed.

(*b*) *Librarianship.*—Mr. J. A. Chapman went on leave for a short period from 25th May 1928 to 19th June 1928, and his place was taken by Mr. S. Kumar, Superintendent, Reading-Rooms. Mr. Chapman again proceeded on long leave preparatory to retirement from the 2nd January 1929. He was relieved by Mr. Kumar, who in turn was relieved on the 11th February, 1929, by the writer of this report.

III. Richey Committee.

The Government of India in December 1926, appointed a small Committee of Enquiry to report into the affairs of the Imperial Library. It consisted of :—

J. A. Richey, Esq., C.I.E., Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, Chairman.

R. B. Ramsbotham, Esq., I.E.S., Member of the Imperial Library Council.

J. H. Lindsay, Esq., I.C.S., Education Secretary, Government of Bengal, and

J. G. Bhandari, Esq., Accountant-General, Bengal, Secretary.

The Committee assembled in Calcutta on the 13th December 1926 and continued the work on three subsequent days. They thoroughly discussed all matters concerning the future finance, location, and administration of the Library. Their main recommendations may be summarised as follows :—

(a) Functions.

(*i*) "The Imperial Library should be a library of reference, a working place for students and a repository of meterial for the future historians of India, in which, so far as possible, every book written about India at any time can be seen and read."

(*ii*) The Imperial Library should be copyright library.

(*iii*) The Imperial Library should be a central lending library, from which books should be available to persons engaged in any special study, in all parts of India.

(*iv*) The Imperial character of the Library should be maintained, especially in the matter of selection of books, which should not be influenced by the interests of any locality.

(b) Location.

The Library should continue to be located in Calcutta.

(c) Management.

The old Council should be replaced by a new Council, the actual administration to vest in a small committee of management.

(d) Finance.

The cost of running the Library to be met entirely from Central Revenues except for the amount required for the maintenance of the Reading-Rooms, which should be met from provincial revenues.

The Committee visited the Library, inspected the work of the Library staff and examined the Librarian and the staff. Their finding was that the Library was in a most unsatisfactory condition. The defects discovered may be classified as :—

(*a*) Defects due to imperfect or incorrect organisation.

(*b*) Defects due to negligence or incompetence on the part of the staff.

Under (*a*), the Committee drew attention to such matters as the :—

(*i*) Unsatisfactory character of the classification scheme followed in the Library.

(*ii*) Non-publication of catalogues.

(*iii*) Absence of regular weeding of books.

(*iv*) Uneconomical arrangements for purchase of books.

(*v*) Delay in cataloguing new books.

(*vi*) Uneven distribution of work among clerks.

(*vii*) Non-employment of labour-saving devices.

The defects pointed out under (*b*) concern the staff, arrears in work, etc.

Subsequent paragraphs of the report will show what has been done up to the present to eleminate the defects pointed out by the Richey Committee and to increase the efficiency of the Library.

IV. Accommodation.

The Library's new home is serving its purpose satisfactorily, except that the space in the Reading-Room is at times insufficient. If the increase in the number of readers visiting the Library is maintained, it will be necessary to increase the space at present available for the m.

The Buhar Library was during the course of the period under review shifted from the second floor to the comparatively small room on the ground floor; this change was not for the better, and this library had again to be shifted from this room to the large room facing the road, on the same floor. This change has enabled the Imperial Library collection of Arabic, Persian and Urdu books to be accommodated all on one side of this room, while seating accommodation is provided for about a dozen readers visiting this portion of the Library for reference purposes. As a consequence of this change, the cataloguing section has been moved to a room close to the Librarian on the first floor, thus enabling him to supervise the staff more effectively, and the Lending Section which formerly shared the big room (now given to the Buhar Library) with the Cataloguing Section, was removed to the small room vacated by the Buhar Library. This change has had the advantage of preventing members of the public visiting the Lending Section from roaming about in the Cataloguing Section. Certain other minor changes have been effected. The maps room has been abandoned and its contents sent to the Stack Room.

The small number of glass case exhibits possessed by the Library which used to lie about in the passage on the ground floor have been housed in a small room placed at the disposal of the Library by the courtesy of the Controller, Military Accounts. A proposal was made to close the verandah facing the Esplanade by glass windows and place the exhibits there, but this was not agreed to by the Council.

V. Air Conditioning Plant.

The proposal for installing an air conditioning plant to regulate the temperature and humidity in the library, as a safeguard against the deterioration of paper due to climatic conditions was referred to the Government of India, some time back, but no decision has yet been reached in the matter.

VI. Copyright Library.

The scheme for making the Imperial Library a "copyright library" has not matured as yet; but it is expected that while the recommendations of the Richey Committee are receiving the attention of the Government of India, something definite will be decided very soon about this long pending question. There is no gainsaying the fact that the necessity of extending the privileges of a copyright library to the Imperial Library becomes more pressing every day, especially when it is seen that with the larger output of books every year, it is becoming difficult for the Library, with its restricted financial resources, to acquire all the books it should. It is hoped that the Government of India will not defer the settlement of this question for long.

VII. Finance.

Appendix I gives an abstract of the receipts and expenditure incurred during the last four years from April 1926 to March 1930. The increase in the budget grant in 19-6-27 is due to the provision of about Rs. 3,000 for the construction of book-racks. The decrease in the two years 1928-29 and 1929-30 is due to the death or retirement of certain members of the staff who were replaced by men on smaller salaries. The figures under A. I., "Pay of Officers" for 1929-30, include the pay of the new Secretary of the Council, who receives an allowance of Rs. 200 per mensem. The provision for purchase of books and publications was enhanced to Rs. 16,000 in 1929-1930, as against Rs. 15,000 during each of the three preceding years. At the end of the financial year 1928-29, the Library owed about Rs. 8,000 for books supplied in that year. This sum had to be paid during 1929-30, in addition to payment for books and other publications received in 1929-30. Consequently the purchase of new books was stopped last year. But in spite of this, the Library still owed about Rs. 2,500 at the end of March 1930.

Coming to expenditure, it is found that the grant for purchase of books had to be raised by re-appropriation to meet increased expenditure; but it fell short of the sanctioned amount, as no expenditure was incurred for the publication of Tarikh-i-Herat, during the first three years of the quadrennium under review. A little over Rs. 600 was spent on this account in 1929-30, while the balance was utilised with the concurrence of the Government of India for the purchase of books.

A new feature in the financial history of the Library is the introduction of an annual contribution of Rs. 20,000 by the Bengal Government, commencing from April 1929, towards the expenses of the library. This grant has its origin in a suggestion made by the Inchoape Retrenchment Committee; but the final shape was given to it by the Richey Committee, and the actual contribution started last year.

VIII. Audit of Library Accounts.

According to the new test audit scheme, the Library accounts for the years 1926-27, 1927-28 and 1928-29 were audited during the period under review. Several of the suggestions made in the first two reports have been adopted, the more important being given below; the third report is still under consideration.

(1) Rules governing the refund of borrower's deposit money were framed in September 1929, which are as follows:—

(*a*) Any sum deposited by a borrower as security for borrowing books from the Library shall be forfeited, if a claim for a refund is not made within a year from the date on which the books were returned.

(*b*) In case books borrowed from the Library by a depositor are not returned after the issue of a reminder, the whole amount deposited by the borrower shall be forfeited (at the expiry of twelve months) from the date of lending the books.

(*c*) No claim to money deposited by a borrower will be recognised unless this receipt is produced.

(*d*) Refund of deposits of Rs. 30 or more shall be paid by cheque.

(2) The amount of Rs. 5,000 invested in G. P. notes, out of readers' deposit money was withdrawn, as a result of the recommendation of the Audit Officer. The loss incurred on the sale of the notes was made up from the interest earned, the rest of which was credited to Government as a departmental receipt.

(3) Leave accounts for all members of the establishment, both superior and inferior, have been prepared.

(4) A furniture register has been started.

(5) Suggestions with regard to the improvement of methods of keeping account books were accepted and necessary improvements made.

(6) It has been decided to compile a "shelf-list" of the stock of the Library, to enable periodical stock-taking being done. The Government of India were approached to sanction temporary staff to undertake the work; they have agreed to this, and the work is to be started shortly.

(7) A "withdrawal register" has also been started to record books lost or withdrawn from circulation for any reason.

IX. Reading Rooms.

The Reading-Rooms attached to the Library continue to be as popular as ever under the supervision of the Superintendent, Mr. S. Kumar. This will be evident from the figures shown in Appendix II. The figures for the two years 1927-28 and 1928-29 show a downward tendency, but those for 1929-30 indicate that the lost ground has been covered to a great extent. The number of visitors in the last year rose by 3,051, while the requisitions increased by 4,388. If the total figures for the four years under review be compared with those for the previous quadrennium, the former will show an increase of 15,708 and 10,960 in the number of visitors and requisitions respectively. But it must be remembered that these figures do not include the reference books which are placed in the open shelves in the Reading-Room and are consulted on the spot. Appendix II is a statement showing by subjects the books requisitioned in the Reading-Rooms during these four years. The decrease in the number of visitors as compared with 1926-27 may be due to the fact that admission to the Reading-Rooms is now regulated by admission tickets, while in previous years it was possible for any one to obtain access to the Reading-Rooms. This regulation not only keeps away persons, who use the Reading-Room merely as a place to sit and rest, but has also the advantage of providing better control over readers. In spite of all these precautionary measures, it is to be recorded with regret, that certain valuable books of the Reading-Room have not escaped mutilation at the hands of irresponsible vandals.

A combined cabinet and table to accommodate the large Oxford Dictionary was provided about the end of 1929, and the dictionary thus became accessible to readers visiting the Reading-Rooms. Books returned to the Stack-Room by the Reading-Room sorters are now entered in a register and the signatures of Stack-Room sorters taken therein in token of their having received back the books. The introduction of this practice not only affords better control over the transmission of books from one place to another, but also enables responsibility to be fixed to some extent in case of loss of books. A Complaint-Book was introduced towards the end of 1929, wherein readers using the Reading-Rooms may record their grievances and suggestions for the better administration of the Reading-Rooms.

The seats in the General Reading-Room require rearranging, and it is especially desirable that the supervising staff should be seated close to the entrance instead of in a far off corner; extra light and fan points are required.

X. Catalogues and Cataloguing.

Altogether 12,911 volumes were classified, catalogued and indexed during the period under review. This number however does not include

the publications or books catalogued in the Oriental Section and Buhar Library. The yearly analysis is given below :—

1926-27 . . .	1,780 vols.
1927-28 . . .	2,113 „
1928-29 . . .	1,226 „
1929-30 . . .	7,792 „
	12,911 volumes.

The figures for 1929-30 may be analysed as follows :—

3,413	books.
1,499	League of Nations publications.
2,880	Official publications.
Total. 7,792	

The cataloguing, perhaps the most important of the Library work, has been in heavy arrears for some time past. Books purchased years ago had not been catalogued, possibly because they were not regarded as important publications. Another reason seems to have been that the staff employed for the purpose was inadequate and the inexperience of new hands militated against good progress.

The purchase of new books was stopped during 1929-30, and this circumstance came to the rescue of the Cataloguing Section who were enabled to clear off the arrears, and it is a pleasure to note that by the end of March 1930, all current cataloguing work was brought up to date. There are however other publications, such as those received from the India Office Library, some years ago, which require to be dealt with. The U. S. A. official publications are simply being stored after accessioning, as their proper cataloguing cannot be undertaken with the present staff. The Library is also being supplied free of charge with the publications of the League of Nations ; these had been allowed to accumulate uncatalogued for some time, when the services of one of the assistants were spared for this purpose and the cataloguing started towards the end of 1928 was finished in about a year's time. This catalogue (of the League of Nations publications) has taken the form of subject entries on slips, and cannot be made available to the public, until it is copied on cards.

A supplementary volume of the subject-index was published in 1929. This brings the printed subject-index well up to date. The credit for the compilation of this volume goes to my predecessor, Mr. J. A. Chapman. A free distribution list of this supplement has been prepared, and as soon as it is approved by the Library Council, the distribution of copies will be taken in hand. The two supplementary volumes of the printed author catalogue were published more than a decade ago, and it is time that facilities were provided for publishing another supplement to this catalogue.

The card catalogues maintained in the Reading-Room are up to date. Arrangements have been made for the speedy cataloguing of all additions to the Library, without sorting the books as was formerly done into those required urgently and those that could be left over to be catalogued as time permitted.

Official publications are at present not classified according to any scheme; but merely numbered serially from 1 onwards. This is of course very unsatisfactory, but to classify the enormous amount of material that has accumulated for years is no easy task. The catalogue of these publications is maintained on slips bearing certain subject-headings; as new volumes are received, fresh entries are made on relevant slips or new slips inserted. In practice, this system is not found very helpful. Again it is noticed that the various issues of periodical publications are scattered over more than one place. In case of annual publications, the entries have become somewhat unmanageable. To remedy these two defects, old slips are being re-written by the clerk in charge of the Official Section, as time permits; but progress is very slow. The total number of new official publications catalogued during 1929-30 was 552. Entries for 2,328 volumes were made in old slips. Similar figures for other years are not available.

XI. Periodicals.

The Library was in receipt of 369 papers and periodicals during 1926-27. Three periodicals were added in the following year, but the number again fell to 360 in 1928-29, which was further reduced in 1929-30 to 316. This number includes papers and periodicals paid for, as well as those received as presentation copies.

An analysis of these is given in Appendix No. IV.

A consolidated list of all the papers and periodicals that were being received in the Library was prepared for the first time in 1929-30. Thus an occasion was afforded to revise the list, and as a consequence 25 papers and periodicals were discontinued and 8 were added to the list. Consequently 146 papers and periodicals were sanctioned in all for purchase during 1930. The list of periodicals received free from the Bengal Library was similarly revised and as a result, certain periodicals which were being purchased were dropped from the list, along with certain others, which were not considered worth taking. The publishers of certain periodicals present the Library with their journals, and the total number of journals received free from the two aforesaid sources comes to 170.

Not all the papers and periodicals received in the Library are retained permanently. Definite orders were wanting in the case of a large number of periodicals received, and consequently those have not been bound for the last five or six years. A sub-committee of the Library Council examined the recommendations of the Librarian, with respect to the permanent retention or discarding of the periodicals received; these were generally accepted, and the periodicals are henceforth to be dealt with accordingly.

XII. Weeding.

No weeding whatsoever has been done during the period under review, although it is necessary that in a well-kept and well-arranged library systematic weeding of duplicate and out of date stock should be done. Probably the only weeding ever accomplished in the Imperial Library was on the occasion of its transfer to its present home. It is doubtful whether the process were carried out on a systematic plan ; if it had been, publications like the "Annual Register" would not have been discarded. The Richey Committee left the question of occasional weeding of the Library's contents to the new Library Council, which should consider it when the completion of the catalogue leaves time to the staff.

XIII. Care of books and binding.

Regular dusting and cleansing of books and racks goes on all the year round by the staff specially provided for the purpose, although it is necessary to add to the number of dusting bearers, for according to present arrangements a good deal of time must elapse between two successive cleansings of the same portion of the stack-room. In 1929 one "Protos Vacuum Cleaner" was purchased for Rs. 150 in order to help and expedite the ordinary cleaning and dusting. Full advantage of its existence is not being derived so far, as the Electric Department has not as yet provided the necessary additional plug points to work the cleaner.

Binding.

12,734 volumes of books, periodicals, newspapers and gazettes were bound during the years under report in addition to the repairs that were carried out by the Library's own daftari. Detailed figures are given in Appendix V. The number of volumes bound in 1929-30 is far in excess of that bound in any of the three previous years. In spite of the attempt to have as many publications bound as possible, the number of those requiring attention is fairly large. One reason for the accumulation of this work is that several papers, periodicals and journals dating back to 1925, had not been bound, as the Council had not passed orders as to whether they should be retained or discarded. The orders having been passed, these several hundred volumes were collected, arranged and a start was made in sending them to the Press for binding, but only at the beginning of March 1930. This work is being carried on at present. Another hindrance in the way of bringing the binding up to date during 1929-30 was that the Press was overworked and refused to receive any binding work for about three months. Again, towards the end of 1929 it was found that books numbering some hundreds sent to the Press for binding from 1925 to 1928 had not been received back. Lists of such books have been prepared and the matter has been taken up with the Press.

XIV. Books acquired.

The total number of books and official publications added to the Library both by purchase and presentation was 36,693. A linguistic analysis of these figures, excluding official publications, will be found in Appendix VI. This table has been slightly changed, so as to exclude the periodicals, which have been dealt with in a new table. The official publications added to the Library number 23,116, which include the publications of the Government of India, Provincial Governments, Parliamentary, His Majesty's Stationery Office, League of Nations and U. S. A. Government's publications, in addition to those received from Ceylon, Japan, Australia, Holland, the Philippines, New Zealand and West Indies. No new books were indented for during the year 1929-30, according to the Library Council's orders, the Library grant being hardly sufficient to meet outstanding liabilities. The only books received were those ordered before April 1929, but supplied later.

The Library has for some time past been acquiring the publications of the Central and Local Governments (excepting the Punjab) on payment, as laid down in the Government of India, Department of Industry and Labour Memo. Nos. A.-436 and A.-436, dated the 1st August 1924 and 17th October 1927, respectively. The question of obtaining these publications free of charge was raised towards the end of the last financial year, and the Department of Education, Health and Lands was requested to approach the other Departments of the Government of India for the free supply of their publications to the Library; while a similar request was made to the various Local Governments direct. The result achieved so far is encouraging, as certain Departments of the Government of India and most of the Local Governments have acceded to the request and have actually started supplying their publications free of cost. This saving will enable more additions being made to the Library as far books proper are concerned.

XV. Donations.

895 volumes were presented to the Library during the period under report. Our thanks are due to the donors for their gifts and the interest shown by them in the Library. A list of the donors who presented more than one volume is given as Appendix VII.

XVI. Lending Section.

Detailed figures for this section will be found in Appendix VIII. As compared with the previous four years there is an increase of 954 volumes only. There has been a fall of 2,273 volumes in the number of books, etc., lent to government departments and officials, while those lent to the public have increased by 3,225. The total amount of money received as security from borrowers during the quadrennium under review was Rs. 44,330 as against Rs. 28,870 received during the period April 1922 to March 1926. The withdrawals amounted to Rs. 40,086,

leaving a balance of Rs. 4,244 in favour of the Library, while the same balance for the previous four years was Rs. 3,507 only. As the figures show, strong propaganda is required to induce the reading public to avail themselves of the opportunities offered by the Imperial Library in the matter of lending books. The Library is a free library, books are ordinarily lent against deposit in money equivalent to the price of the books loaned.

In 1929, it was found that over 100 books, some of which were lent without deposit, had not been returned by borrowers; these can be called the bad debts of the Library. A list of all such books covering the period 1908 to 1928 was prepared, and, as the result of correspondence, several were received back; others had to be written off and the depositors' deposit money forfeited where possible; while action is still being taken in certain cases. The issue of reminders for the return of books kept beyond the permissible period has become a regular feature of this section, since 1929. The work of this section could be improved by the addition of one graduate clerk.

XVII. Buhar Library.

The Buhar Library is a collection of Arabic and Persian books and manuscripts donated by the late Maulavi Sadr Ud Din Al Musavi of Buhar, in Burdwan District. This collection according to the conditions imposed by the donor is kept separate and so cannot be added to. The Buhar Library possesses a unique manuscript called the "Tarikh-i-Herat" (History of Herat, in Afghanistan). On the suggestion of the former Librarian, Mr. J. A. Chapman, the Government of India agreed to the publication of this manuscript, and sanctioned a sum of Rs. 3,600 for the purpose. The editing was entrusted to Khan Bahadur Abdul Muqtadir of the Bankipore Library, as a labour of love. He started the work, which covered about 120 printed pages of Royal Octavo size. Later on it was discovered that, according to the terms of the agreement between the donor and the Government of India, the manuscript could not be removed from Calcutta, and thus the work had very reluctantly to be stopped. Negotiations however are going on with the present head of the late Maulavi Sadr Ud Din's family to alter the terms of the bequest in such a manner as to allow the manuscript to be removed from Calcutta, if necessary, for publication purposes. The clerk in charge of the Buhar Library resigned in September 1928 and as no suitable candidate was available the Library was kept locked for about three months, when a graduate of the Calcutta University was appointed to officiate in the post. He also left after some time, and the Government of India were asked to sanction higher pay, in order not only to attract a qualified person but to induce him to stay in the post. This proposal was agreed to and a start of Rs. 100 in the grade of Rs. 50—3—125 was given to the present incumbent of the post, who besides being a graduate has passed certain examinations in oriental languages.

The Imperial Library also holds a small collection of Arabic, Persian and Urdu books, which is looked after by the clerk in charge of the Buhar Library. The growth of this section has not been very encouraging, as only seven books were added to it by purchase during 1929-30, and ten were received as presentation copies. Of this total of seventeen, seven were in the Arabic Language, nine in Persian and one in Urdu. Four Urdu periodicals are received in this section while Arabic and Persian periodicals are conspicuous by their absence. The readers who consulted books of these three languages during 1929-30 were 2,300 in number, 42 books being lent from the Library.

The classification scheme formerly followed for this collection was not sufficiently exhaustive. A new scheme has been drawn up, and books are now being classified according to it; the next step contemplated is the preparation of a shelf-list and catalogue.

XVIII. Official Publications.

Casual references have been made under different headings to the official publications received in the Library. The re-writing of the progress slips of these publications was begun in 1929. Similarly the pasting of correction slips issued to certain Indian official publications was begun in the beginning of last year. Unless there be one sorter exclusively to look after the work of pasting correction slips, satisfactory progress cannot be made, but a beginning has been made and some progress achieved. Another point worth considering in this connection is the cataloguing of a mass of U. S. A. Government publications that are supplied to the Library, free of charge. Their number in 1929-30 came to a little over 2,000. At present they are simply accessioned and placed in racks according to accession numbers. If the Library is to continue to receive these publications, and they are to be retained, necessary arrangements must be made for their being looked after properly. A Statement showing the number of official publications received during 1929-30, from various sources, will be found in Appendix IX.

XIX. Oriental Section.

This section comprises books in Sanskrit, Hindi, Bengali and other Indian languages, except Urdu. One clerk is in charge of it. The section is predominantly Bengali, which is only natural. All these books are received free from the Bengal Library, out of the books received by the latter according to the Books Registration Act of 1867. Three hundred and thirteen new books were catalogued during 1929-30, and 1,364 cards or slips were prepared for them. Out of the library's old collection 4,184 books were catalogued in the same year, for which 9,303 slips were prepared.

XX. Office.

The number of letters received in and issued from the Library during the period under review is given in Appendix X, year by year. If these figures may be taken as a criterion of the amount of office work, it is clear the work is on the increase.

The recording and indexing of papers has been neglected ever since the library shifted to its present premises. The result of this neglect is that either old papers cannot be traced at all or, if traceable, then only after much difficulty and waste of time. Unfortunately no assistant could be spared to attend to this work exclusively, but attention has been given to it as time permitted, and 1,319 cases were recorded in 1929-30.

An inventory of library furniture was made last year and a furniture register started. Similarly the stock of the printed catalogues of the library was counted and a stock register for the same started.

To improve the condition of the office, it is necessary to relieve the Head Clerk of the duties of cashier and of sharing with the Superintendent the supervision of the Reading-Rooms.

The leave-accounts of both the superior and inferior staffs were completed in 1929.

K. M. ASADULLAH,

Librarian, Imperial Library. (*Offg.*)

APPENDIX I.

Finance.

1.—Grants.

Budget Heads.	Years. 1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A. 1.—Pay of Officers . *Non-voted*	18,650	18,400	18,200	11,200
Voted .	...	...	...	9,000
A. 2.—Pay of Establishment . .	35,520	36,140	32,900	31,860
A. 3.—Purchase of Books and Publications.	18,700*	18,700*	18,700*	18,500†
A. 4.—Other Expenses, including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	11,840*	8,330	8,600	8,700
Total .	84,710	81,570	78,400	79,200
A. 5.—*Deduct*—Amount recovered from the Bengal Government.	...	...	...	—20,000

* Includes Rs. 3,700
† Includes Rs. 2,500
} for the pub ication of "Tarikh-i-Herat".

* According to Library Record.

2.—Expenditure.

Budget Heads.	Years. 1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
A. 1.—Pay of Officers . *Non-voted* .	18,000	18,000	18,247	9,858 13 0
Voted . .	...	...	...	9,000 0 0
A. 2.—Pay of Establishment . .	34,173	32,581	30,223	31,559 0 0
A. 3.—Purchase of Books and Publications.	14,423	16,415	16,164	18,560 12 1
A. 4.—Other Expenses, including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	11,454	9,573	7 601	7,310 5 6
Total .	78,050	76,569	72,235	76,288 14 7

APPENDIX II.

Analytical statement of Requisitions for books not in the open-shelf collection of the Reading Room during the years 1926-27, 1927-28, 1928-29 and 1929-30.

Subject.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.
Administration { Official Publications	431	458	528	622
Administration { Non-Official Publications.	854	1,032	1,121	1,436
Agriculture (including Manufacture)	487	399	457	452
Archæology	121	228	135	159
Astronomy	340	356	402	407
Bibliography	148	105	71	179
Biography	1,186	953	1,287	1,145
Biology	161	116	170	369
Botany	77	97	78	83
Chemistry	188	165	99	126
Education	440	456	517	563
Engineering, etc.	348	236	301	380
Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	185	268	205	192
Fine Arts, etc.	733	545	335	396
Folklore, Mythology, etc.	27	51	32	79
Geography and Travels	1,024	1,030	760	915
Geology	52	67	67	66
History	1,816	1,651	2,118	2,495
Law	790	808	908	1,105
Literature	3,071	4,524	4,269	5,433
Mathematics	352	222	228	415
Medicine	848	645	628	725
Numismatics	49	9	14	65
Periodicals { Newspapers	813	741	828	1,153
Periodicals { Magazines	624	391	535	613
Philology	421	400	274	350
Philosophy	1,095	1,174	1,107	1,658
Physics	97	107	61	220
Political Economy (Finance, Trade, etc.)	780	916	1,222	1 360
Religion	2,238	1,941	1,816	1,658
Science (General)	715	462	410	522
Social Reforms, etc.	578	685	872	868
Sports, Games, etc.	210	262	78	129
Zoology	28	63	63	71
Total	26,108	21,557	21,994	26,382
GRAND TOTAL		96,041		

APPENDIX III.

Reading Rooms.

No. of Visitors.				No. of Requisitions for books not in the open-shelf collection in the Reading Room.			
1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.
44,090	41,581	37,750	40,801	26,108	21,557	21,894 ~~21,004~~	26,382
Total . 164,222				Total . 96,041			

APPENDIX IV.

Periodicals received in the Library.

Name.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.
Weekly & Fortnightly . . .	25	29	29	25
Monthly	146	139	186	100
Quarterly	79	77	75	73
Others	86	90	93	93
Newspapers	24	28	28	20
Gazettes	9	10	8	5
Total .	369	372	869	316

APPENDIX V.

Binding.

Books and Periodicals.					Newspapers & Gazettes.			
Year .	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1926-27.	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30.
Volumes	3,197	2,115	2,536	4,440	96	128	146	79
					Total . 449			

APPENDIX VI.

Number of books etc. acquired by purchase and presentation, except those issued by Local Governments and Departments of the Government of India.

1926-27 to 1929-30.

Language.	Vols.
European Languages	9,155
Achiku	1
Angami-Naga	3
Arabic	1
Assamese	62
Bengali	2,565
Burmese	26
Canarese	3
Chinese	5
Garo	1
Gondi	1
Gujrati	16
Hindi	494
Japanese	2
Karachi	3
Kashmiri	2
Khasi	3
Kui	1
Lepcha	1
Lushai	2
Manipuri	2
Marathi	88
Mundari	1
Naga	3
Nepali	10
Pahlavi	6
Pali	18
Persian	3
Punjabi	3
Sanskrit	619
Santali	5
Savara	1
Tamil	1
Tibetan	16
Urdu	75
Uriya	46
Total	13,244

APPENDIX VII.

Names of Donors of Books.

1926-27 to 1929-30.

	Vols.
1. Abdul Latif Khan	7
2. Academia de la Histoire chacon y Cuba	7
3. Agri-Horticultural Society of India	5
4. Aldous, Mrs.	6
5. Arthur MacDonald	4
6. Behari Lal Mitra, Rai Bahadur	3
7. Benares Hindu University	3
8. Bibliotheca Nacional de Bogota, Columbia	7
9. Bodding, Rev. P. O.	2
10. Brajalal Mukherjee	3
11. British Museum	29
12. Campbell, H.	2
13. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, U. S. A.	2
14. Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, Fife	2
15. Cawnpore Inter-University Board	4
16. Central Library, Baroda	2
17. Chapman, J. A.	17
18. Charu Chandra Mitra	2
19. Consul General for Italy	13
20. Consul General for Japan	77
21. Cotton, Sir Evan	3
22. Da Imprensa Nacional do Estado da India Portuguesa	3
23. Engineering Herald, Lahore	2
24. Geological Survey of India	10
25. Ghosh, A. K.	3
26. Gibb Memorial Trust	2
27. Gupta, K. N.	2
28. Hari Mohan Sen	2
29. Hill, Miss Iris	4
30. Hispanic Society of America	166
31. Hrishikesh Mullick	3
32. Hydro-Electric Power Commission, Ontario	2
33. Indo-Japanese Commercial Museum	2
34. Jain Mitra Mandal, Delhi	2
35. Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap van kunsten en Werenschappen, Java	6
36. Lucian Reychler	3
37. McGill University Library, Montreal	30
38. Muhammad Daud	2
39. Muslim University, Aligarh	4

APPENDIX VII—*contd.*

	Vo's.
40. Nahar, P. C.	2
41. National Research Council of Japan	2
42. New York University	11
43. Osmania University, Hyderabad	45
44. Palestine Oriental Society	2
45. Pandit Sankar Nath	10
46. Pandit T. Gangooly	2
47. Parsee Punchayet of Funds and Properties, Bombay	2
48. Philatelic Literature Society, London	2
48*a*. Power, Capt. O. E.	2
49. Prince Yusuf Kamal	2
50. Romesh Chandra Mitra	2
51. Royal Colonial Institute, Northumberland	4
52. Russell-Cotes, Herbert	2
53. Saita Gratitude Foundation, Sendai, Japan	6
54. Saldanha, L. J.	3
55. School of Oriental Studies, London	2
56. Secretary, All-India National Congress	12
57. Smith, S. H.	2
58. University Library of St. Andrews	3
59. University Library of Cambridge	2
60. University of Calcutta	54
61. Unversity of Dacca	14
62. University of Mysore	2
63. University of Rangoon	4
64. University of Queensland, Brisbane	3
65. Varendra Research Society, Rajshahi	5
66. Yale University	2
	652
Other donors (each gave one volume)	243
Total	895

APPENDIX VIII.

Issue Department.

Books, etc., lent to Government Departments and Officials.					Books, etc., lent to the general public against security.				
1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	Total.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	Total.
652	697	973	1,532	3,854	659	5,688	8,690	4,863	19,900

Grand Total . . 23,754.

APPENDIX IX.

Official Section.

Number of books, etc., purchased from and presented by Local Governments and Departments of the Government of India.*

	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.
Central Government	1,217	905	890	945
Assam	102	72	95	73
Bengal	220	173	272	181
Bihar and Orissa	137	117	130	169
Bombay	235	242	172	442
Burma	267	246	242	157
Central Provinces	85	130	92	150
Madras	174	73	105	219
Punjab and N.-W. F. Province	205	130	110	199
United Provinces	194	157	167	125
Total	2,836	2,245	2,355	2,690
Other publications belonging to the Official Section.				
Native States	86	79	116	51
Maps	†	†	†	82
Parliamentary Papers	899	667	668	881
U. S. A.	†	†	1,989	2,005
League of Nations	870	1,486	320	360
Total	555	2,232	3,093	3,379
Miscellaneous.				
Ceylon Government, French Government, Australia, Japan, Holland, Philippine Islands, New Zealand, West Indies, etc.	1,292	1,120	1,027	960

* Separate figures not available. † Figures not available.

APPENDIX X.

Statement showing the number of letters received in and issued from the Imperial Library.

RECEIPTS.

Year	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30.
Number	2,499	2,793	3,000	3,629

ISSUES.

Year	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30.
Number	2,843	2,977	3,007	3,42k

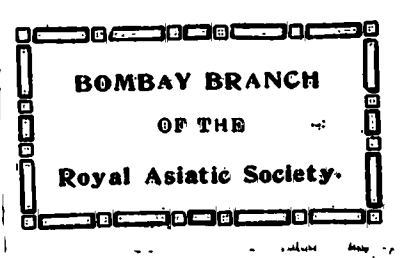
MGIPC—S6—III-3-111—5.12.30—450.

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Period

From 1st April 1930 to 31st March 1931.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1932


BOMBAY BRANCH
OF THE
Royal Asiatic Society.

2322
Ex II

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Period

From 1st April 1930 to 31st March 1931.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1932

Report on the working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1930-31.

I. Period.

This report covers the period from 1st April 1930 to 31st March 1931.

II. Administration.

(*a*) *Library Council.*—The personnel of the Council continued to be the same excepting for the undermentioned changes :—

Mr. R. Littlehailes, the Chairman of the Council having proceeded on leave, the officiating Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, Mr. A. H. Mackenzie, C.I.E., acted as Chairman from about the middle of April to the beginning of December 1930. Mr. H. G. Rawlinson, a member of the Council wrote at the end of the year 1930, resigning his seat on the Council, and the question was referred to the Government of India. Mr. A. C. Woolner, C.I.E., having proceeded on long leave informed the Council in the beginning of 1931, that he would not be able to attend their meetings till his return to India. The Council met three times during the year under report, *viz.*, in September, December and March. About fifty items were disposed of in these meetings. The average attendance was 4.

(*b*) *Secretaryship.*—Mr. J. R. Barrow, I.E.S., Principal of the Presidency College, who was appointed Secretary to the Library Council on the 11th September 1929, resigned the post on the 17th April 1930; and Mr. J. M. Bottomley, I.E.S., Assistant Director of Public Instruction was appointed in his stead from the 22nd May 1930.

(*c*) *Librarianship.*—Mr. J. A. Chapman, retired on the 1st of December 1930, on the expiry of the leave granted to him, and the Council in their meeting held on the 20th December 1930, recommended the confirmation of the officiating Librarian.

III. Accommodation.

There is nothing to report under this head, excepting that the two rooms on the second floor, occupied by the Print and Photographs Section, were handed over to the Librarian as additions to his residential quarters, which were considered insufficient. The contents of the rooms were removed to the Stack Room, where accommodation was available for them.

IV. Air Conditioning Plant.

The question had been under the consideration of the Government of India for some time, and their decision to postpone the proposal for an indefinite period was communicated in their letter No. 1891-Edn., dated the 15th October 1930.

V. Copyright Library.

The question of converting the Imperial Library into a copyright library was considered by the Library Council in their meeting held on the 21st March 1931, and the Secretary and Librarian were asked to prepare a scheme at an early date, and to submit it to the Council in their meeting to be held in the following July. This shows that in spite of the prevailing financial stringency, the Government of India are not unmindful of the importance of the question, and that when the scheme is actually submitted to them for their sanction, it will receive a sympathetic consideration.

VI. Finances.

Appendix I will show the details of the finances during the year under report, and how they compare with those of the previous year. The total budgetted grant was a little over Rs. 81,000 which is more by Rs. 2,000 than last year's. The total expenditure came up to Rs. 73,509, the saving being due to non-utilisation of a portion of the pay of temporary establishment, which was appointed later in the year than had been anticipated and to some of the members of the Library Council not attending the meetings of the Council.

The grant for purchase of new books was for the first time raised to Rs. 20,000 which enabled us to clear debts to the extent of about Rs. 3,000 as well as to make the usual purchases of new books and periodicals. No expenditure on account of the publication of Tarikh-i-Herat was incurred and the amount was surrendered. The Bengal Government paid their fixed quota of Rs. 20,000 towards the cost of the maintenance of the Reading Room.

VII. Audit of Library Accounts.

The accounts for the year 1929-30 were duly audited by the Audit Officer, Survey and Miscellaneous, about October 1930, and it is gratifying to note that the said Officer's report is getting briefer and briefer every year. The Shelf-Listing recommended in a previous report was started during the year under review, and a note about it will be found elsewhere.

VIII. Reading Room.

The figures relating to Readers who visited the Reading Room during the year under report and the number of books, etc., consulted by them will be found in Appendix III. The total number of visitors increased by 3,997 while that of requisitions for books not in the Reading Room will be found in Appendix II. The place of honour is shared by History and Administration; while the second place is occupied by Religion and the third goes to Political Economy, leaving aside old periodicals and papers. The subject least cared for was Numismatics, with only 52 books to its credit.

The total number of permanent and temporary admission tickets issued during the year 1930-31 is 1,627 and 7,999 respectively. It is gratifying to report that there have been no thefts of books from the Reading Room this year.

The new additions of note to the Reading Room collection were a number of dictionaries and the new edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. The Reading Room Rules required reconsideration; this has been done, and the revised rules as approved by the Council are being published in the new edition of the Guide to the Imperial Library, which is expected to be out shortly. ~~The rules are also reproduced at the end of this report.~~

IX. Cataloguing.

Altogether 2,062 books were classified, catalogued and indexed. 11,478 cards were prepared for them, or on an average a little over five cards for a book. This number includes the India Office books that had been lying unattended to for some time past. As far as the cataloguing of books proper is concerned it is now up to date. This was rendered possible with the help of a temporary Cataloguer included in the temporary establishment sanctioned during the course of the year. The cataloguing is done fairly speedily now, a book being generally available for use from one to three week's time after its arrival in the library. The cataloguing of official publications is dealt with under the proper head. 492 copies of the supplementary volumes of the Subject-Index were distributed during the year under review, out of which 85 copies were presented to foreign libraries and institutions.

The prevailing financial stringency stands in the way of making any suggestions with regard to the publication of a Supplementary Author Catalogue which is long overdue, or to make any suggestions for the cataloguing of the huge mass of United States of America official documents.

X. Periodicals.

The total number of papers, periodicals and gazettes received during the year was 334. Of these 132 are being paid for, while the

rest (202) are received free of charge from the publishers, institutions and the Bengal Library. Twenty one periodicals in foreign languages and one in Urdu were discontinued with the Council's orders while fourteen were added by purchase during the year; their names are given below:

(1) Al Muqtataf (Arabic).
(2) Armaghan (Persian).
(3) Combined Civil List.
(4) Empire Survey Review (Supply not started yet).
(5) Quarterly Journal of Mathematics (Oxford).
(6) Urdu.
(7) American Literature.
(8) Modern Literature.
(9) Foreign Affairs.
(10) a. Philosophical Transactions and
b. Proceedings of the Royal Society.
(11) Library Quarterly.
(12) Saraswati (Hindi).
(13) Aryan Path.
(14) India.

There were certain additions to the free list also. The library is spending about Rs. 2,500 on periodicals every year. For the first time, a periodical each in Arabic, Persian and Hindi languages was added to the list of periodicals subscribed to by the library. An analysis by periodicity is given in Appendix No. IV.

XI. Weeding.

No weeding on a big scale was done during the year 1930-31, excepting of the surplus or unimportant books received some years back from the India Office, while these were being catalogued. More attention will have to be paid to this work when time permits.

XII. Care of Books and Binding.

The usual cleaning and dusting has been going on all the year round, but the insufficiency of the staff intended for the purpose is felt very much. 18 more plug points were provided during the year under report, which have greatly facilitated the working of the "Protos Vacnum Cleaner", which is found to be fairly helpful.

Binding.

Altogether 2,773 vols. were sent to the Press for binding during the period under review. Last year's number was in excess to this by about 1,746 vols. which was due to the fact that most of the old periodicals which had not been bound previously, were sent for binding them. This number includes 101 volumes of newspapers and gazettes. All the periodicals that had not been bound for the last few years, and to which reference was made in the last report were sent to the Press in 1930-31. The return by the Press of books that had been lying with them for binding for quite a long time was continued, and all the books sent up to the end of 1927 were received back barring a few which could not be traced. The lists of those sent in the following two years have been compiled and action is being taken to get them back as early as possible. At one of their meetings, the Library Council considered the question of establishing a small bindery of their own to obviate the difficulty that was being experienced in the books not being returned by the Press quickly. The matter was discussed with the Manager, Government of India Press, Calcutta, who assured the Secretary and the Librarian of his personal attention in the early return of books that had been with the Press for a long time. This promise is being kept. As to the original proposal, the advice of the said officer was not in favour of establishing a bindery for reasons which were found convincing and the matter was consequently dropped.

XIII. Accessions.

The total number of books and other publications added to the library during 1930-31 is about 12,943. A linguistic analysis of these figures excluding official publications will be found in Appendix VI. The official publications number 10,227 and a statement of the source of their supply is given in Appendix IX. 674 volumes were received as donations, details of which will be found in Appendix VII. Our hearty thanks are due to the donors for their valuable gifts. The library ceased publishing a monthly "List of additions" some years back. During the year under report a start was made to publish weekly lists of select books added to the library, through the medium of the Press. It is gratifying to say that the idea was much appreciated by the Reading Public. Our thanks are due to the Associated Press for their kindly undertaking the distribution of the lists to certain papers, and to the editors of those papers who have given publicity to these lists. It is expected that other papers will also appreciate the benefit that accrues to their subscribers by publishing these lists, and they will also oblige us by giving publicity to the said lists.

XIV. Lending Section.

The total number of volumes lent is 7,488 which is in excess of the last year's figures by about a hundred. The number of volumes lent to Government Offices fell by about half, while that lent to the public rose in the same proportion. Appendix VIII will also show for the first time the number of books borrowed by local readers, and by outside readers in Bengal and other provinces. Stated in terms of percentages it appears that 88% were lent to Calcutta Readers, 4½% to people in Bengal, and 7½% to all other provinces. While the figures for Calcutta are very encouraging, others are not at all so. The facilities afforded by the Imperial Library in the matter of lending books are probably unequalled by any other public library in India, and it is unfortunate that more persons do not avail themselves of these facilities. The reminders issued to borrowers numbered 850.

Rs. 11,954 were deposited by borrowers, while Rs. 11,281 were withdrawn during the same period. As compared with the last year there was an increase of a little over hundred in the deposits and a decrease of about Rs. 141 in withdrawals. With the approval of the Government of India, the Library Council transferred the sum of Rupees Ten Thousand from the current account to the fixed deposit account, thus obtaining an income of about Rs. 350 per annum which is to be utilised for purchase of books. The amount actually in hand at the end of the year was about Rs. 6,129 which is greater by about Rs. 672 than last year's.

XV. Buhar Library.

Reference was made in the last report to the publication of "Tarikh-i-Herat". The Library Council could not agree to the conditions proposed by the present head of the Musavi family for permission to remove the Mss. from Calcutta and so the question of its publication had to be dropped. Later, however, Khan Bahadur Abdul Muqtadir, the editor of the work (who is now working in Cuttack College) expressed his desire to resume the work in collaboration with Mr. Mah-fuz-ul Huq, M.A., Lecturer, Presidency College, Calcutta, thus doing away with the necessity of removing the Mss. from the Library. It is hoped that according to these arrangements and with the help of an expert like Mr. Mah-fuz-ul Huq the work will in course of time be an accomplished fact.

91 Arabic, Persian and Urdu books were added to the Imperial Library collection of the said languages, of which 19 were in the first, 24 in the second, and 48 in the last named language. 43 of these came as donations and the remaining 48 were purchased. The number of readers who visited the Buhar Library was 3,254; while 104 books were lent out from this collection. These figures on comparison with

those for the previous year show an increase of 954 and 62 respectively; which is a proof that better use is being made of the Buhar Library now.

The Al Muqtataf (Arabic) and Armaghan (Persian) were subscribed to from January 1931.

The classification work started last year is nearing completion and it is hoped to begin the shelf-listing during the course of the next year. 1,585 books were classified during the period under review.

XVI. Official Publications.

The total number of publications received in the official section is 10,227 as against 7,029 of last year, or 3,198 vols. in excess. An analysis of these figures will be found in Appendix IX. Of these, 913 publications were catalogued (having been received for the first time) and 6,197 entered in Progress Slips; while 3,117 (mostly U. S. A.) have not been treated either way. The work of this section has suffered to a certain extent owing to constant changes in its personnel, due to various causes. For this very reason, the work of re-writing the Old Progress Slips and the pasting of correction slips has not made any appreciable progress. The U. S. A. publications continued to be stored as previously, without being properly catalogued. It appears unlikely that this work will be possible without extra help; and the present financial situation does not allow making any such proposals for the time being. The several Departments of the Government of India and the various Provincial Governments have agreed to the free supply of their publications either in toto or in part.

XVII. Oriental Section.

372 volumes in Oriental Languages excepting Arabic, Persian and Urdu were added to this section in the course of the year under report, for which 1,488 cards and slips had to be prepared. A linguistic statement is given in Appendix VI. The first position goes to Bengali with 156 volumes to its credit, while Sanskrit occupies the 2nd place with 132 books, and Hindi third with 45 books.

25 periodicals (mostly Bengali) are also received by this section. 3,294 books of the old stock were also catalogued in this period, for which 8,393 slips were prepared.

XVIII. Shelf-List.

Reference was made in the last report to the starting of "Shelf-Listing" work. The appointments to the temporary establishment sanctioned for the purpose were not made till about the end of 1930; and the intervention of Puja holidays did not allow the work to be

actually started till the 23rd October, 1930. Three men were employed to prepare the list and a fourth was added a few months later. The work has been progressing fairly well and the total number of volumes shelf-listed up to the end of March 1931 came to 19,224; while the number of cards prepared for the same was 14,131.

This opportunity was seized to label afresh books whose labels had come off or become worn out. The number of such books is 7,325.

It had also been noticed during the preparation of the list that the "call-numbers" assigned to certain books were wrong, *e.g.*, the same number was given to two different books, or two or more copies of the same book had got different numbers. This defect has been removed as far as the shelf-list or the books themselves are concerned; but along with this the card catalogues, both Author and Subject must also be corrected to avoid confusion. It is also likely that a number of books will be found missing; their cards will have also to be removed from the said card catalogues so that they may tally with the stock. It is not expected that the present temporary staff will be able to do this work. If so, at least one temporary hand for a few months will be required to remove these drawbacks in the catalogues.

XIX. Office.

The total number of letters received and issued during 1930-31 was 4,201 and 4,186 respectively, or 672 and 765 more than that of last year.

It is a sure indication of the increase in office work. The question of curtailing the correspondence is now under consideration and will be considered as soon as the financial position improves.

The recording and indexing of old papers was continued during the year but not as vigorously as desired; the reason being that the work had to be done only when an office hand could be spared from his normal duties. In spite of this handicap 1,212 cases or 100 less than last year were recorded and the work is proceeding as yet. It is, however, expected that if no interruption takes place it may be practicable to bring this work upto date by the time that the next report has to be written.

The library staff memorialised the Government of India some years back for better salaries and the matter was left to the consideration of the new Library Council. A scheme was consequently prepared suggesting some changes in the personnel of the office and revised grades of pay. Due to the prevailing financial stringency the Council thought it advisable to postpone the consideration of the scheme till such time as better conditions prevailed. But it cannot be denied that even if the whole scheme is not taken into consideration certain changes should be introduced as early as possible to improve the efficiency of the office.

At the request of the Public Service Commission (India) arrangements were made to exhibit their notices inviting applications for any vacant posts advertised by them for the benefit of the public. It would not be out of place here to thank all the local English Dailies for publishing our notices from time to time without any charge.

XX. Training.

Several requests have been received from time to time from persons desirous of the same to allow them to receive training in Library work at the Imperial Library. There is no provision for the purpose and no regular classes are held to impart the said training. In spite of this two students, one a state scholar from the Hyderabad State Library and the other the Assistant Librarian of the Benares Hindu University were permitted to study the work of the Imperial Library. Each of them spent about three months for the purpose and the necessary training both in theory and practice was given to them. About the end of 1930 Dr. D. C. Ganguli, M. A., Ph. D., (London) applied for the same purpose and he too was allowed to get the necessary training as a special case. Dr. Ganguli's training was finished only recently. Due to an increased demand for trained Librarians and the desire on the part of some young men to join the profession after getting the necessary training, it is time that steps were taken to start regular training classes at the Imperial Library.

K. M. ASADULLAH,

Librarian, Imperial Library.

APPENDIX I.

Finance.

I.—Grants.

Budget Heads.	Years.					
	1929-30.			1930-31.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
A. 1.—Pay of Officers { *Non-voted* . . .	11,200	0	0	2,400	0	0
A. 1.—Pay of Officers { *Voted* . . .	9,000	0	0	9,500	0	0
A. 2.—Pay of Establishment	31,800	0	0	36,500	0	0
A. 3.—Purchase of Books and Publications . .	18,560	0	0	20,500	0	0
A. 4.—Other Expenses, including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	8,700	0	0	12,300	0	0
Total .	79,200	0	0	81,200	0	0
A. 5.—*Deduct*—Amount recovered from the Bengal Government.	20,000	0	0	20,000	0	0

II.—Expenditure.

Budget Heads.	Years.					
	1929-30.			1930-31.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
A. 1.—Pay of Officers { *Non-voted* . . .	9,858	13	0	2,178	0	0
A. 1.—Pay of Officers { *Voted* . . .	9,000	0	0	9,000	0	0
A. 2.—Pay of Establishment	31,559	0	0	34,015	0	0
A. 3.—Purchase of Books and Publications .	18,560	12	1	18,635	0	0
A. 4.—Other Expenses, including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	7,310	5	6	9,681	0	0
Total .	76,288	14	7	73,509	0	0

APPENDIX II.

Analytical statement of Requisitions for books not in the open shelf collection of the Reading Room during the year 1930-31.

Administration—		
Official publications	781	2,743
Non-official publications	1,962	
Agriculture (including Manufacture)	547	
Archæology	437	
Astronomy	452	
Bibliography	489	
Biography	1,441	
Biology	271	
Botany	77	
Chemistry	120	
Education	482	
Engineering, etc.	310	
Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	312	
Fine Arts, etc.	643	
Folklore, Mythology, etc.	120	
Geography and Travels	1,246	
Geology	79	
History	2,742	
Law	912	
Literature	5,158	
Mathematics	350	
Medicine	623	
Numismatics	52	
Periodicals—		
Newspapers	1,380	2,042
Magazines	662	
Philology	406	
Philosophy	1,793	
Physics	154	
Political Economy	1,810	
Religion	2,015	
Science (General)	663	
Social Reforms, etc.	1,208	
Sports, Games, etc.	190	
Zoology	82	
Total	29,969	

APPENDIX III.

Reading Rooms.

1930-31.

Number of Visitors	44,798
Number of Requisitions for books not in the open shelf collection in the Reading Room	29,969

APPENDIX IV.

Periodicals received in the Library.

	Vols.
Weekly and Fortnightly	17
Monthly	84
Quarterly	77
Others	96
Newspapers	21
Gazettes	9
Buhar Library	5
Oriental section	25
Total	334

APPENDIX V.

Binding.

1930-31.

	Vols.
Books and Periodicals	2,672
Newspapers and Gazettes	101
Total	2,773

APPENDIX VI.

Number of books, etc., acquired by purchase and presentation, except those issued by Local Governments and Departments of the Government of India.

1930-31.

Language.	Vols.
European Languages	2,253
Arabic	19
Assamese	2
Bengali	156
Burmese	3
Chinese	3
Hindi	45
Javanese	1
Kashmiri	3
Malayalam	2
Marathi	3
Pahlavi	1
Pali	5
Persian	24
Punjabi	0
Sanskrit	132
Santali	1
Tamil	3
Tibetan	2
Urdu	48
Uriya	1
Total	2,716

APPENDIX VII.

Names of Donors of Books.

1930-31.

	Vols.
Calcutta University	52
Madras University	35
British Museum	9
The Secretary, All-India Congress Committee, Allahabad	2
The Manager, Theosophical Quarterly	3
Bernard Flexner	6
Gibb Memorial Trust	13
Mysore University	2
Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap Rechtshoogeschool Museum	11
Directeur du Bulletin, Pavillon de la Reine (Seine)	5
New York Public Library	3
Sarat Chandra Mitter	18
Tough Peoples Union, New York	3
Uppsala University	2
Parsee Panchayat	4
Lucien Reychler	3
The General Secretary, Asiatic Society, Bengal	3
Accademia de la Historia de Cuba	2
Victoria and Albert Museum	4
Hispanic Society, America, Trustees of	18
The Head of the Economics Department, Allahabad University	2
Andhra University	2
Dr. Sarasi Lal Sarkar	3
McGill University	2
British Academy, Through O. U. Press	11
Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay Branch	3
U. P. Government, Allahabad	4
Allahabad University	8
Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta	2
Bombay University	3
St. Andrews University	2
Venkatachallam Iyer	3
Central Library, Baroda	3
Queensland University	3
All India Federation of Teachers Association, Allahabad	2
J. Ghose	2
Longmans Green & Co.	2
The Secretary, ~~Journal of the~~ Association of Engineers	3
Calcutta Corporation	2
Indo-Japanese Museum, Cal.	2
Chief Publicity Officer, Ry. Board	5
The Director, Walker's Galleries Ltd.	24
Pandit T. Gangooly	4
	294
Other donors (each gave 1 volume)	380
Total	674

APPENDIX VIII.

Issue Department.

1930-31.

Books, etc., lent to Government Departments and Officials	765
Books, etc., lent to borrowers against security	6,723
Total	7,488

APPENDIX IX.

Official Section.

1930-31.

A. Number of books, etc., purchased from and presented by Departments of Government of India and Local Governments :—

1. Government of India and its attached and subordinate offices	1,172
2. Assam	74
3. Bengal	373
4. Bihar and Orissa	133
5. Bombay	210
6. Burma	189
7. Central Provinces	89
8. Madras	319
9. Punjab and North-West Frontier Province	135
10. United Provinces	162
11. Native States	31
12. Maps	73
	2,960

B. Other publications belonging to the official section :—

1. Parliamentary Papers	1,585	
2. U. S. A.	4,379	
3. League of Nations	392	
		6,356

APPENDIX IX—*contd.*

C. Miscellaneous and Foreign :—

Ceylon		911
Australia		
South Africa		
Malay		
New Zealand		
West Indies		
France		
Germany		
Japan		
Philippine		
	Total	10,227

APPENDIX X.

Despatch Section.

1930-31.

Statement showing the number of letters received in and issued from the Imperial Library.

Receipts	4,201	
Letters Issued		4,186
Reminders Issued		850
	Total	5,036

M.G.I.P.C.—S5—III-3-127—20-1-32—500.

- 8 DEC 1933

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1932-33.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1933

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1932-33.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1933

Report on the working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1932-33.

I.—Period.

The report covers the period from 1st April 1932 to 31st March 1933.

II.—Administration.

Library Council.—The term of office of the Last Library Council terminated on the 31st July 1932; and its place was taken from the 1st August 1932 by the existing Council, according to the orders of the Government of India conveyed in the Department of Education, Health and Lands letter No. F. 67-5/32-E., dated the 28th July 1932. The personnel now consists of :—

1. The Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, *Ex-officio* Chairman.

Members.

2. The Honourable Justice Sir Philip Buckland, Kt., Puisne Judge, High Court, Calcutta. 3. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Abdul Mumin, M.L.C.	Representatives of the Government of Bengal.
4. Rai Bahadur Dr. Upendra Nath Brahmachari, M.A., M.D., Ph.D., F.A.S.B. 5. Professor Pramathanath Banerjee, M.A., D.Sc., Bar.-at-Law.	Representatives of the University of Calcutta.
6. Mr. A. C. Woolner, C.I.E., M.A., Vice-Chancellor, University of the Punjab, Lahore. 7. M. R. Ry. S. R. Ranganathan Avargal, M.A., Librarian, Madras University Library, Madras. 8. Dr. Wali Muhammad, M.A., Ph.D., I.E.S., Professor of Physics, Lucknow University, Lucknow.	Nominated by the Governor-General in Council to represent interests outside Calcutta.

The Council met only once on the 27th September 1932, and the rest of the work was done by circulation. At the said meeting, it was resolved to request the Government of India to allow the Council assembling at least twice a year, but due to financial stringency, the Government could not see its way to grant the request.

Rai Bahadur Dr. Upendra Nath Brahmachari was re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for one year.

There was no change in the office of Librarian and Secretary to the Council.

III.—Copyright Scheme.

A further step in the direction of making the Imperial Library a copyright one was the considering of the report of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Council in October 1931, to examine the copyright scheme. The said Sub-Committee after a few minor alterations adopted the scheme drawn up by the Librarian and Secretary to the Council, which in turn was approved by the Council with one or two changes. Doubt, however, was felt with regard to the present being the proper time to forward the scheme to the Government of India for their sanction. The Council fully realising the situation decided however that—

> "(*ix*) the Library Council were fully alive to the prevailing financial stringency, but having regard to the fact that it will take a considerable time to consult the provincial governments and settle other details concerning the scheme, they were of opinion that the present was the best time to come to a conclusion regarding the scheme, in order to enable its being put into force as soon as the financial situation improved".

Some time was unfortunately lost for certain reasons in forwarding the scheme to the Government of India, but it has been done recently. It is hoped that the scheme which is not costly will meet with the approval of the authorities that be, and India will have its first Copyright Library simultaneously with the forthcoming constitutional changes.

IV.—Finance.

The figures for the year under review, as well as those for the two previous years will be found in Appendix I. They speak for themselves. The General Purposes Sub-Committee of the Retrenchment Advisory Committee recommended the fixing of the library budget at Rs. 56,500, which recommendation was accepted by the Government of India. While sanctioning the budget estimates, another sum of Rs. 100, was reduced from the total estimates, whereas the 10 per cent. cut in salaries took away another Rs. 3,300, thus reducing the grant to Rs. 53,100 only.

The total expenditure exceeded the total grant by Rs. 914-0-0, which is chiefly due to excess expenditure on purchase of books.

V.—Audit of Library Accounts.

The annual auditing took place from the 12th to 21st July 1932; and in the words of the Audit Officer himself "No serious irregularities came to light". The few objections raised were of formal or routine nature. The Library Council considered the report in its meeting held in September 1932, and found it "satisfactory".

VI.—Reading Rooms.

The Reading Rooms were open for 358 days during 1932-33 (including 49 Sundays and 31 holidays), while they were entirely closed for only 7 days. On Sundays and holidays the working-hours are from 2-5 P.M.

The number of readers who visited the Reading Rooms on these days and the number of books requisitioned by them from the stack room was 43,448 and 31,386 respectively. The daily average comes to 121 readers and 88 books.

A comparison of the figures for the last three years (*vide* App. II) shows that the number of visitors during 1932-33 fell by 3,528 and 1,350 respectively, and that of requisitions was less by 1,269 as compared with 1931-32 and more by 1,417 than in 1930-31. The reason for the first is not far to seek. During the year under report, six volumes were stolen from the general Reading Room after a proud record of the total absence of such cases for the last two or three years; and as a precautionary measure, the issue of day-permits was very much restricted, while the three-year tickets were issued with caution. This of course had the desired effect, and the fall in numbers is not to be regretted. While the daily average of readers fell by 12, that of requisitions was smaller only by 4, as compared with the average in the previous year. This leads to the conclusion that better class of readers have been making use of the Reading Room to the exclusion of those who come to read only newspapers and journals.

A study of Appendix III (analytical statement by subjects) will reveal the propensities of the reading public visiting the Reading Rooms. Literature continues to be most popular with the reading public, and to an extent that the number of volumes of the next best subject History is only one-third of literature. Religion has regained its lost position of being third on the list. Botany, of which only 113 volumes were consulted in 1931-32, thus being last on the scale has all of a sudden made itself so popular that it can with 557 volumes to its credit claim a fairly high position in the list. Its allied science, Zoology occupies the last position (112 Vols.) with Sports and Games just above it (181 Vols.). Calcutta is well-known in the country for its eagerness for all manly sports, and having regard to that fact, it seems strange that the number of volumes consulted in Sports and Games should be lower and lower every year. Numismatics is making itself quite popular, for the number of volumes requisitioned is nearly three times that of last year. Other scientific subjects as Physics, Chemistry, Geology and Mathematics have been all well patronised in preference to Politics, Administration and Biography, etc.

In spite of the restriction referred to above, 2,394 three-year tickets and 4,247 day-permits were issued; giving a daily average of 7 and 12 respectively.

The Private Reading Room is proving quite popular. The original provision was for eight persons but due to constant demand for these seats, the number was recently raised to 12; but this number too is not adequate to meet the requirements. Another room only can solve the difficulty. The suggestion made last year to re-arrange the seating accommodation in the Reading Room still remains a pious hope, for want of funds.

174 volumes were added to the Reading Room collection, while 83 were withdrawn for one reason or other, including six volumes which were stolen from there. The actual additions were 91 only.

VII.—Cataloguing.

1,122 books were catalogued for which 6,776 cards were prepared. The number of books Shelf-listed during the same period is 822, and that of Shelf-list cards 741. The number of books catalogued is practically half that of 1930-31, and about 100 more than in 1931-32. The decrease is due to less books having been purchased due to lack of funds.

Reference was made last year to the publication of supplementary catalogues. The matter having been considered by the Imperial Library Council, it was resolved to discontinue the printing of library catalogues. To meet the requirements of mofussil readers, who generally use the printed catalogues, it was decided to supply them with typed lists of books required. Certain other proposals were also made to bring the card catalogues up to date and completing the Shelf-list, all of which await the sanction of higher authorities.

VIII.—Periodicals.

The total number of papers, periodicals and gazettes as reported last year was 340. The list of journals purchased is scrutinised every year and the changes are introduced from the beginning of the calendar year. As a result of this revision, five periodicals were discontinued (one of these to be obtained free from the Bengal Library); while three were added to the list by purchase, and 17 by presentation, bringing the total to 355, or 15 more than last year. Those added by purchase are :—

(1) Current Science.

(2) International Affairs, and

(3) Al Jámi'ah.

The total expenditure under this head was about Rs. 1,800 for 92 items. The increase of Rs. 300 in expenditure was mainly due to some outstanding bills having been paid in 1932-33. Appendix IV will show the figures for the last three years, by periodicity.

The "List of periodicals received in the Imperial Library" referred to in the last report was completed towards the close of the year, and is now in the press for printing.

IX.—Weeding.

The publications referred to in the last report as having been set apart for disposing of were all distributed during the course of the year; along with another 50 volumes of Calendars of State Papers, which were found duplicate and ordered by the Library Council to be discarded. No further weeding was done during this period for want of staff, although there is a large number of books awaiting checking, etc.

X.—Care of Books and Binding.

The usual cleaning and dusting has been going on all the year round in as best a manner as was practicable under the circumstances. For want of funds the precauti nary measures adopted to protect books from the attack of white ants and other insects had to be abandoned for the time being; but this policy perhaps could not be allowed to continue lest it should prove a case of false economy.

Binding.—The total number of volumes sent to the Press for binding during the year was 3,536, or more than double the number sent last year. This is due to the fact that the Press contrary to the previous year did not refuse to receive the work, at any time, and partly also to the clearance of arrears. By the end of the year under report all books sent to the Press six months previously had been received back. It is gratifying to note that there was no loss of books this year, while these were in the custody of the Press.

107 Portfolios for Periodicals were made and orders were placed for 38 more. Appendix V may be consulted for detailed figures.

XI.—Accessions.

The total number of publications of all sorts added to the Library during the year under report comes to 10,565 as against 11,692 of last year, or 1,127 volumes less. The drop in number can chiefly be ascribed to a smaller sum (Rs. 8,000 only) being available for purchase of books, papers, periodicals, reference books, and certain official publications. Out of the total additions, 1,000 volumes in European Languages; 32 in Arabic, Persian and Urdu; and 82 in Sanskrit, Bengali, Hindi and other Indian languages were purchased. A linguistic analysis of accessions will be found in Appendix VI.

The total number of books presented to the Library comes to 567 of which 344 were in European languages; 63 in Arabic, Persian and Urdu; and 160 in Sanskrit, Bengali and Hindi, etc. This number does not include the books received from Bengal Library. The number of books presented has also fallen considerably during this year. May be that the general depression prevailing at the time is responsible for this deficiency. The names of donors of more than one volume

are shown in Appendix VII. The thanks of the Imperial Library Council are due to all those persons and institutions who so very kindly sent in these books.

The total number of Indian and Foreign Official Publications, added to the Library comes to 8,615; details of which will be found in Appendix X. Due to the economy campaign, some of the Provincial Governments have intimated their inability to supply either wholly or partially their publications, free of charge.

The fortnightly "List of Additions" is being supplied to the Associated Press of India for publication in the Press, but it is regretted that the Press is not co-operating in this respect, so much so that all the local dailies even do not publish the list. A monthly list of additions of books in Sanskrit, Bengali and Hindi languages is also supplied to certain local vernacular papers for the benefit of such of their readers, as may be interested in these books.

In the beginning of the year 1932-33, the Library started to publish in the "Modern Librarian", a "List of Books to Read"; which includes select and important books added to the library with notes thereon. The same list is also broadcasted from the Calcutta Broadcasting Station.

XII.—Lending Section.

The total number of volumes lent out was 10,876 which shows an increase of 1,682 volumes over last year. The figures include 1,455 volumes (587 more) borrowed by Government Offices; and 9,421 volumes (1,095 more) by the public. Appendix VIII will show the comparative figures for the last three years.

Appendix IX shows the percentage of books lent out to various provinces and administrations, etc. Calcutta, as usual claims the highest figure, which is below that of last year by about 6 per cent. Bengal, excluding Calcutta has made up the deficiency pointed out last year, by practically doubling its share, although the increase is due to larger requisitions from various Detention Camps. The rest of India, including one or two other countries (7·8) cannot even collectively compare with Bengal, *minus* Calcutta (8·86). To make the library more popular or more used, it is necessary to remove certain restrictions and give better publicity to the Library.

1,331 Reminders were issued for overdue books. Much of the time and labour and a certain amount of money could be better utilised, if the borrowers realised their responsibility in the matter of either returning books in time or asking for extension of the period of loan. Borrowers were notified to that effect during the course of the year, but with little profit.

A sum of Rs. 13,936 or Rs. 1,684 less was deposited as security; whereas 11,270 were withdrawn as against Rs. 12,925. The gain for the year was Rs. 2,666. The Library Council sanctioned with

the approval of the Government of India the investment of another sum of Rs. 3,500 in fixed deposit, bringing the total to Rs. 18,500, and leaving Rs. 2,966 in hand at the close of the year. The total deposit money came to Rs. 21,466 on 31st March 1933.

XIII.—Official Section.

In all 8,615 volumes were received in this Section of which 1,435 were supplied by various departments of the Government of India, its attached and subordinate offices; and 1,326 by provincial governments either on payment or otherwise. Parliamentary Publications and Blue Books numbered 867, and U. S. A. Government supplied 4,190 volumes, while the League of Nations forwarded 485 Publications. Foreign and Colonial Government publications numbered 241 only, as against 508 of last year. The Library authorities are grateful to all these donors for their useful gifts. Some of the provincial governments have again refused to supply any more, their publications free of charge, and as such, the Library cannot complain of other countries supplying a smaller number of their publications, free of charge. 928 of these publications were catalogued, having been received for the first time, while 7,115 were entered in Progress Slips. The last three years' figures will be found in Appendix X.

The work of re-writing the Progress Slips has not made any appreciable progress, for want of time; while the posting of correction slips has been going on fairly satisfactorily, although it is not up to date.

XIV.—Shelf List.

Nothing further was done in this connection during the year under report, excepting that dummies representing books not found at the time of Shelf-listing were prepared and placed on the shelves. This facilitated very much the work of complying with requisitions from the Reading Room and the Lending Section. The number of books missing will be known definitely only when a thorough checking has been done. Two members of the staff were deputed for this purpose, but the work being complicated, these persons had to be withdrawn, and the Library Council was approached in September last year to move the Government of India to provide two persons to complete the Shelf-listing work. This was agreed to and the matter is now under the consideration of the Government of India.

XV.—Buhar Library.

95 books in Arabic, Persian and Urdu as compared with 75 of last year were added during the period under review; of which 32 were purchased and 63 received as gifts. Of the total number, 15 each were in Arabic and Persian and 65 in Urdu.

Only 2,005 persons visited this library as against 1,866 of last year. The number of books lent was 302. The figures show an increase of 139 and 66 respectively. 400 bibliographical references were supplied

to the public. It is clear that readers are taking interest in this collection and still better use perhaps could be made of it, if certain improvements could be effected in the Buhar Library.

The number of periodicals remains the same, excepting that the supply of the Urdu daily and one Urdu monthly was discontinued by the publishers. "Jami'ah", a high class Urdu monthly was added.

The reorganisation of the Section started some time back is going on slowly, but steadily. All the books have been classified according to a new classification scheme, devised for the purpose. Books have been provided with Book-plates for the first time (about 2,500) the whole stock is being accessioned (about 700 dealt with) according to modern systems. On the completion of accessioning work, the Shelf-listing will be taken in hand, which will be followed by cataloguing.

No appreciable progress was made in the editing of "Tarikh-i-Herat".

XVI.—Oriental Section.

512 volumes were added to this section as against 410 during the last year, for which 1,947 cards land slips were prepared, showing an increase of 102 and 307 respectively. A statement by languages is given as per Appendix VI. Of the total additions only 82 volumes were purchased, while 430 were either received from the Bengal Library or presented. The number of Bengali books added to this section comes to 234; that of Sanskrit to 180 and Hindi to 60.

8,625 cards were written for the new and comprehensive Sanskrit Catalogue, referred to in the last report, bringing the entries up to "T". 1,516 slips and cards were prepared for books in Bengali and other Indian languages.

2,527 queries for bibliographical information about Oriental works were attended to during the year under review. The monthly list of additions to the Oriental Section was regularly published in the local Vernacular Press.

Owing to financial stringency the standing orders for the supply of publications of six Oriental series were cancelled (Anandasrama, Benares; Chowkhamba; Dayananda College; Kashi Sanskrit; and Punjab Oriental Series); with the option of buying such volumes of these series, as may be thought fit.

XVII.—Training.

Applications continued to be received from various places for getting training in Library Science, but only the Librarian of the Indian Railway Institute, Lillooah, was allowed to work in the Library and get necessary training.

On the motion of the Librarian, the Imperial Library Council in their meeting held in September 1932 considered the desirability of opening a Library Training Class, and appointed a small Sub-Committee to work out a scheme. This having been done, the matter has been referred to the Government of India for their approval.

XVIII.—Office.

The total number of letters received and sent out is 3,775 and 5,509 respectively. The former fall short by 160 of last year's figures, while the latter show an increase of 141. In addition to the letters issued, 1,331 reminders (1,153 by post and 178 by bearer) asking for return of 2,192 overdue books were despatched. A comparative statement showing three years' figures appears as Appendix XI.

The number of cases recorded and indexed comes to 2,214 as compared with 2,022 of last year. The work is up to date now, but this is being done at the sacrifice of some other work. Unless provision is made on a permanent basis for dealing with this work, it is liable to fall into arrears again.

Two new forms were added to the Imperial Library series of Special Forms.

K. M. ASADULLAH,
Librarian, Imperial Library.

APPENDIX I.

Finance.

I.—Grants.

Budget Heads.	Years. 1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
A. 1.—Pay of Officers { *Non-voted*	2,400 0 0	2,400 0 0	..
{ *Voted*	9,500 0 0	9,500 0 0	9,800 0 0
A. 2.—Pay of Establishment	36,500 0 0	36,100 0 0	28,300 0 0
A. 3.—Purchase of Books and Publications.	20,500 0 0	15,000 0 0	8,000 0 0
A. 4.—Other Expenses, including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	12,300 0 0	10,000 0 0	7,000 0 0
Total	81,200 0 0	73,000 0 0	53,100 0 0
A. 5.—*Deduct* amount recovered from the Bengal Government.	—20,000 0 0	—20,000 0 0	—16,000 0 0

II.—Expenditure.

Budget Heads.	Years. 1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
A. 1.—Pay of Officers { *Non-voted*	2,178 0 0	600 0 0	..
{ *Voted*	9,000 0 0	10,500 0 0	9,749 0 0
A. 2.—Pay of Establishment	34,015 0 0	33,337 0 0	27,920 0 0
A. 3.—Purchase of books and Publications.	18,635 0 0	11,129 0 0	9,186 0 0
A. 4.—Other expenses including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.	9,081 0 0	7,741 0 0	7,159 0 0
Total	73,509 0 0	63,307 0 0	54,014 0 0

APPENDIX II.

Reading Rooms.

—	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
Number of visitors	44,798	46,976	43,448
Number of requisitions for books not in the open shelf collection in the Reading Room.	29,969	32,655	31,386

APPENDIX III.

Analytical statement of books requisitioned from the stack room.

Subject.	Years.		
	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
Administration—			
Official publications	781	519	915
Non-Official publications	1,962	2,369	1,338
Agriculture (including Manufacture)	547	508	477
Archæology	437	375	584
Astronomy	452	637	662
Bibliography	489	227	456
Biography	1,441	1,753	1,147
Biology	271	294	376
Botany	77	113	557
Chemistry	120	274	564
Education	432	591	750
Engineering, etc	310	345	694
Ethnology, Anthropology, etc	312	190	456
Fine Arts, etc.	643	818	993
Folklore, Mythology, etc.	120	108	518
Geography and Travel	1,246	1,136	1,129
Geology	79	119	405
History	2,742	2,873	1,995
Law	912	1,137	1,336
Literature	5,158	5,689	5,853
Mathematics	350	533	472
Medicine	623	774	898
Numismatics	52	128	310
Periodicals—			
Newspapers	1,380	1,622	765
Magazines	662	809	862
Philology	406	614	511
Philosophy	1,793	1,315	1,009
Physics	154	220	477
Political Economy	1,810	1,918	1,297
Religion	2,015	2,327	1,775
Science (General)	663	895	673
Social Reform, etc.	1,208	1,082	839
Sports, Games, etc.	190	193	181
Zoology	82	150	112
Total	29,969	32,655	31,386

APPENDIX IV.

Periodicals received in the Library.

	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
Weekly and Fortnightly	17	24	31
Monthly	88	122	138
Bi-monthly	...	1	3
Quarterly	78	68	74
Others	96	92	76
Newspapers	21	22	22
Gazettes	9	11	11
Oriental Section	25	*	*
Total	334	340	355

* Included in the figures given above.

APPENDIX V.

Binding.

Years.	Books and Periodicals.	Newspapers and Gazettes.	Total.
1930-31	2,672	101	2,773
1931-32	1,467	52	1,519
1932-33	3,428	108	3,536

APPENDIX VI.

Number of books acquired by purchase and presentation, except Official Publications.

Language.	Years. 1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
European Languages	2,253	1,708	1,343
Ahom	...	1	1
Arabic	19	15	15
Assamese	2	5	5
Bengali	156	238	234
Boro	...	2	...
Burmese	3	...	2
Canarese	...	2	1
Chinese	3	...	...
Gujerati	...	8	1
Hindi	45	23	60
Javanese	1	...	...
Kashmiri	3	1	...
Kharia	...	1	...
Malayalam	2	1	1
Marathi	3	20	17
Newari	...	1	...
Pahlavi	1	3	...
Pali	5	2	3
Persian	24	17	15
Punjabi	9	3	1
Sanskrit	132	94	180
Santali	1	..	...
Tamil	3	2	6
Tibetan	2	...	...
Urdu	48	47	65
Uriya	1	3	...
Total	2,716	2,197	1,950

APPENDIX VII.

List of Donors of Books.

1932-33.

Donors.	No. of Vols.
Academia de la Historia de Cuba	2
Adyar Library, Madras	2
Allahabad University	2
Andhra University	4
Asiatic Society of Bengal	28
Bengal Chamber of Commerce	3
Bhattacharyya, Babu Hemendra Kumar	4
Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab	8
British Academy, London	3
British Museum	18
Burma Government	2
Calcutta University	22
Chattopadhyaya, Babu Yatindra Mohan	2
Central Provinces Government	3
Consulate General for Germany, Calcutta	15
Cooch Behar Sahitya Sabha	6
Director of Archæology, Hyderabad	3
E. I. R., Publicity Officer	22
Gandhi, Mr. M. P.	2
Gaudiya Math, Calcutta	15
Ghose, Babu Asutosa	2
Government Oriental Library, Mysore	2
Grindlay & Co, Ltd., Calcutta	7
Haldar, Babu Gurupada	8
Huntington Library & Art Gallery, California	8
Imperial Secretariat Library Delhi	8
Indian Chamber of Commerce	2
Institute for Islamic Teachings, Bombay	2
Jack, Mr. William Shaffer	2
Jain, Lala Musaddi Lal	103
Japanese Consul General, Calcutta,	3
Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap	2
Bechtsboogeschool Museum	2
Library of the Palace of Peace. The Hague	2
Mc Gill University	45
Madras Government	6
Madras University.	6
Maharaja Sarfoji's Library. Tanjore	8
Mukhophadhyaya, Babu Bansari	3
Mukhopadhyaya, Babu Yatindranath	2
Mysore University	2
Nababidhan Trust	3
Oriental Institute, Baroda.	5
Osmaniuyah University.	15
Pal, Babu Candicaran,	2
Political Agent, Bundelkhand	2
Queensland University	2
Raya, Babu Hemendra	4
Raycaudhuri, Babu Visvesvar	2
Red Cross Society, Calcutta	2
Saint Andrews University	6
Samiusky, Mr L.	2
Stein, Sir Aurel	2
Trustees of Parsee Panchayat, Bombay	8
United Provinces Government	6
Victoria University of Manchester	4
Visva Bharati, Santiniketan	4
	437
Other donors, who presented one volume each	130
	567

APPENDIX VIII.

Lending Department.

Borrowers.	Years. 1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
Volumes lent to Government—			
Offices	765	868	1,455
Volumes lent to Public	6,723	8,326	9,421
Total .	7,488	9,194	10,876

APPENDIX IX.

*Statement of Books lent, according to provinces and countries.**

Province.	1931-32. No. of Vols. lent.	1931-32. Percentage.	1932-33. No. of Vols. lent.	1932-33. Percentage.
Assam	23	·25	13	·11
Baluchistan	...	...	2	·01
Bengal (excluding Calcutta) . . .	446	4·85	964	8·86
Bihar and Orissa	55	·6	36	·33
Bombay	66	·72	66	·6
Burma	3	·03	5	·048
Central India	46	·5	262	2·4
Central Provinces	111	1·2	125	1·14
Ceylon	10	·11	...	...
Madras	31	·34	77	·7
Punjab	136	·15	59	·54
United Provinces	155	1·7	210	1·93
England	...	...	1	·009
Total .	1,082	11	1,820	17
Calcutta	8,112	89·00	9,056	83·26
GRAND TOTAL .	9,194	100	10,876	100

* Similar figures for 1930-31 are not available.

APPENDIX X.

Official Section.

A.—Number of books, etc., purchased from and presented by Departments of Government of India and Local Governments—

	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
1. Government of India and its attached and subordinate offices . . .	1,172	906	1,174
2. Assam	74	50	69
3. Bengal	373	170	163
4. Bihar and Orissa	133	125	109
5. Bombay	210	227	225
6. Burma	199	220	226
7. Central Provinces	89	78	115
8. Madras	319	158	149
9. Punjab and North-West Frontier Province	135	164	159
10. United Provinces	162	110	111
11. Indian States	31	55	71
12. Maps	73	4	261
Total .	2,960	2,267	2,832

B.—Other publications belonging to the Official Section—

1. Parliamentary Papers . . .	1,585	754	867
2. U. S. A. Government Documents . .	4,379	5,531	4,190
3. League of Nations	392	515	485
Total .	6,356	6,800	5,542

APPENDIX X—*contd.*

Official Section—contd.

	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
C.—Miscellaneous—			
Ceylon, Australia, South Africa, Malay, New Zealand, West Indies, France, Germany, Japan, Philippine	911	508	241
Total	10,227	9,575	8,615

APPENDIX XI.

Despatch Section.

Statement showing the number of letters received in and issued from the Imperial Library.

	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.
Receipts	4,201	3,935	3,775
Issues	4,186	5,386	5,509
Reminders for return of books lent	850	1,311	1,331

MGIPC—S1—III-3-77—15-11-33—500.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1934-35.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1936

135373

BOMBAY BRANCH
OF THE
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.
TOWN HALL, BOMBAY.

Report on the working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1934-35.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

I.—Period.

The report covers the period from 1st April, 1934 to 31st March, 1935.

II.—Administration.

Library Council.—The Hon'ble Justice Sir Philip Buckland and Khan Bahadur Mohammad Abdul Mumin, both representatives of the Bengal Government, having resigned their membership of the Library Council, their seats were taken by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Bartley, I.C.S., Bar-at-Law and Mr. Shahid Suhrawardy, B.A. (Oxon.), Rani Bageswari Professor of Fine Arts, Calcutta University, from 13th September, 1934.

Librarian.—The Librarian, Mr. K. M. Asadullah, proceeded on leave on average pay from 7th October, 1934, to 30th November, 1934; and Khan Bahadur A.F.M. Abdul Ali, Keeper of Records of the Government of India, was appointed to officiate for him, in addition to his own duties.

The Council met only once during the year, on 29th September, 1934, and the rest of the work was done by circulating papers.

Rai Bahadur Dr. Sir U. N. Brahmachari, Kt., M.A., M.D., F.A.S.B., was re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for one year.

III.—Copyright Scheme.

The Scheme continues to be under the consideration of the Government of India, and as such there is nothing to report on the subject.

IV.—Finance.

The figures for income and expenditure are given in Appendix I, along with those for the two previous years. The decrease in the case of "Grant" is due to the fact explained in the last report, that certain items of expenditure under A. 4 are not to be borne by the Library, and as such no provision is made in the budget estimates for them. The expenditure has exceeded the grant, and that mainly under "Purchase of Books". This is due mostly to books out of the Standing orders having been supplied in larger numbers.

V.—Audit of Library Accounts.

The accounts of the Library for the year 1933-34 were audited in August 1934. The report was considered by the Council in their meeting held on 29th September, 1934, and was declared to be " satisfactory".

VI.—Reading Rooms.

The Reading Rooms were open for 337 days during the year, including 49 Sundays and 30 holidays. These were entirely closed for 28 days as against 12 of last year. The difference is due to the fact that during the stock-taking of the Library, the Reading Rooms had to be closed altogether. On Sundays and holidays the working hours are 2-5 in the afternoon.

The total number of persons who visited the Reading Rooms was 45,412, as against 38,101 of the previous year. Thus not only the last year's deficiency was made up, rather the number exceeded that of 1932-33 also by 1,964 persons. This gives a daily average of 135 persons as against, 108. Besides the books and journals that are available for reference or study in the Reading Rooms, 28,166 books were requisitioned from the Stack Room. The number is less by 432 than last year. The daily average works out to be 84 as against 81 of the previous year. The small variation in total number hardly deserves any comment, as the average has been exceeded by 3.

Appendix II will give comparative figures for the last three years; whereas Appendix III will give detailed figures for readers and books requisitioned during the year under report.

The study of Appendix IV (analytical statement by subjects) will show that the taste for reading has continued to be mostly what it was a year before, *i.e.*, Literature, History, Law and Economics remain at the top, while Religion has been replaced by Biography. Similarly, no change is traceable from the other end, so that Zoology and Numismatics occupy the two last positions, while Physics and Geology have exchanged places. The main variations are among Astronomy, Chemistry, Education, Engineering, Fine Arts, Mathematics and Medicine which all show a downward tendency. There is some increase in the number of books of Bibliography, and Biology, consulted in the Reading Rooms.

2,622 three-year admission tickets were issued as against 2,378 of last year. The number of day tickets is practically the same, *viz.*, 4,529. The daily average of the two kinds of tickets is 8 and 13 respectively.

A new set of rules was framed for controlling admission to the Private Reading Room and checking the work of those using that room. 21 research workers secured admission to the Private Reading Room during 1934-35. 67 volumes were added to the Reading Rooms, while 138 were withdrawn for one reason or other; including one volume lost through theft.

VII.—Accessions.

The total number of all kinds of publications added to the Library during the year 1934-35 comes to 7,090 as compared with 10,158 of the previous year, or 3,064 less. The chief item responsible for the fall in numbers is the official publications. A linguistic analysis of the accessions will be found in Appendix V. 700 volumes were presented to the Library during this year, of which 595 were in European languages, 73 in Indian languages, and 32 in Arabic, Persian and Urdu. This number is exclusive of books received from Bengal Library of which the number comes to 527. The number of books presented to the Library is less by 82. The names of donors of more than one volume are given in Appendix VI, and the thanks of the Imperial Library Council are due to all those persons and institutions who so very kindly presented those books.

Of the total additions to the Library 4,948 were official publications of the Central and Provincial Governments of India and of certain other countries. Detailed figures will be found in Appendix XI.

The "List of additions" was supplied to the English and Vernacular Press, as before; and it is getting better publicity now. The Library Authorities are grateful to the Associated Press of India and such of the papers as are giving publicity to the List for the courtesy shown in this direction.

VIII.—Shelf-list.

The question of compiling the Shelf-list for the rest of the stock of the library, and completing in certain ways the portion already prepared was once more considered by the Council in their meeting in September 1934. It was decided to request the Government of India to provide temporary staff to do the aforesaid work. The Government of India were good enough to comply with this request and sanctioned the employment of two temporary clerks for one year, from 1st of March, 1935, to complete the work. The work was consequently started from the said date and is progressing satisfactorily.

IX.—Cataloguing.

The total number of books catalogued during the year 1934-35 is 1,229, for which 6,862 cards were prepared. This number does not include the figures for Official Section or for books in Oriental languages. 984 works were shelf-listed, for which 876 cards were prepared. When compared with similar figures for last year, those for 1934-35 show a slight decrease. This is chiefly due to no work having been done during the time that the stock-taking of the Library was going on.

In the previous report, reference was made to a certain plan approved by the Council to bring the card catalogues of the Library for books

in European languages up to date. The first catalogue to be so treated was the Author Catalogue and it is satisfactory to note that during the year under report the four printed volumes of Author Catalogue, *i.e.*, both original and supplementary were cut and the entries pasted on cards, which brought the Author Catalogue on cards up to date. The total number of entries so treated comes to about 56,000.

X.—Periodicals.

The total number of papers, periodicals and gazettes received during the year was 335 or 8 less than those received the previous year.

Three journals, namely, (1) The American Historical Review; (2) Empire Journal of Experimental Agriculture; and (3) the Moslem World were added by purchase; while three papers (1) Englishman; (2) Musalman; and (3) Bangabani ceased publication. The number of miscellaneous journals received free fell by eight during the year under report which caused the fall in the total number of journals received.

The total expenditure under this head was about Rs. 1,925; and the total number of periodicals purchased was 98. Appendix VII will show the figures by periodicity for the last three years.

XI.—Weeding.

A list of 628 duplicate and spare books was approved by the Council for being discarded. The list was printed and supplied to all Secretariat libraries, University libraries, besides one or two other important libraries, for exchange or otherwise. The demand for these books was so great that not only no book was left undistributed, rather no library could get all what it wanted.

XII.—Care of books and binding.

There is nothing to be added to what was said in the last report about care of books. Few additions to the inferior staff are likely to produce better result.

Binding.—In all 2,814 volums were sent to the Press for binding. The number is short by 862 volumes as compared with the previous year; but would have been bigger if the work had not suffered at certain times during the year, owing to stock-taking and the services of the clerk concerned having been utilised in office for helping them to clear accumulations. The Press was fairly prompt in returning the books after binding. Camparative figures will be found in Appendix VIII.

XIII.—Lending Section.

In all 12,294 volumes were lent out, which show an increase of 549 volumes over the previous year's figures.

Out of this number, 2,838 volumes were lent for Government use (1,534 more), while 9,456 were lent to the public or 985 less than last year. The reason is that the Lending Section was closed for about a month on account of the stock-taking of the Library and no books were lent out. Appendix IX will show the comparative figures for the last three years.

Appendix X shows the number and percentage of books lent out to various Provinces, etc. Calcutta's percentage is going down, for it is 74 as against 82 of last year; but it shows that other places are deriving more benefit, by and by. Bengal, excluding Calcutta, borrowed about 14 books out of every hundred as against 9 of last year; while all other places combined got only about 12.

In their September meeting, the Library Council framed a new rule to impose fine for the late return of books by borrowers. The rule was brought into force from 1st February, 1935, and it is satisfactory to note that it is having the desired effect; for the number of reminders issued during 1934-35 was reduced to 1,545, although the new rule was in force only for two months in that year.

A sum of Rs. 15,117-4 was deposited by borrowers of books and Rs. 16,126-15-9 withdrawn, or Rs. 1,009-11-9 more than receipts. The Lending Section remained closed for about a month and as such the receipts could not cover the refunds. The total amount on this account on 31st March, 1935, was Rs. 23,907-10-3 of which Rs. 1,907-10-3 were in current account with the Bank and the balance in fixed deposit.

XIV.—Official Section.

In all, 4 948 volumes were received in this section, of which 1,166 were supplied by various departments of the Government of India and their subordinate and attached offices. 1,229 were received from Provincial Governments either on payment or free of charge. The total number is less by 3,172 volumes as compared with the previous year. The number of U. S. A. Government publications fell by 2,916, hence the drop in the total.

Parliamentary publications and Blue Books numbered 784 while the U. S. A. Government publications numbered 1,013, and League of Nations 260. Some Colonial Governments and certain foreign countries supplied 200 volumes, for which the Library Authorities are grateful to them.

Out of the total number of publications received, 537 were catalogued and 4,411 entered in progress slips. The re-writing of progress slips could not be resumed owing to lack of time. The pasting of correction slips is going on, and some of the arrears have yet to be cleared. Comparative figures for the three years will be found in Appendix XI.

XV.—Buhar Library.

106 books were added to this section as against 199 of the previous year. Of the total number 25 were in Arabic, 30 in Persian and 51 in Urdu. Out of the total additions 56 were purchased, 18 were received from Bengal Library, and 32 were presented. The last figure does not include 22 volumes presented to the library by Maulvi Abdul Allam of Burdwan last year. The total number of books presented by him is 126. Once more the Maulvi Sahib is to be thanked for his valuable gift.

The number of persons who used this Library was 4,960 as against 5,214 of the previous year. The reason is that this Section along with others was closed for about 3 weeks, when the stock-taking of the main Library was going on. 339 books were lent out of this collection, and the number of bibliographical references supplied was 964.

The re-organisation of this section is going on. 159 old books were accessioned and the checking of the shelf-list was started, which had some defects.

XVI.—Oriental Section.

483 volumes were added to this section as against 556 during the previous year, for which 1,961 cards and slips were prepared. The decrease of 73 and 163 respectively is mainly due to the drop in the number of books presented to the Library. This number fell from 164 of the previous year to 73 in the year under review. Another reason is the insufficiency of funds available for purchase of new books. A statement by languages showing books added is given as Appendix V.

Of the total additions, only 58 were purchased (Bengali 30, Sanskrit 18 and Hindi 10.) while 352 were received from the Bengal Library, and 73 presented. The number of Bengali books added to this section comes to 301, that of Sanskrit to 128, of Hindi to 36 and of other languages to 18, as against 297, 153 and 68 respectively.

512 cards were added to the new Sanskrit Catalogue placed in the Reading Room referred to in the previous report, thus keeping it up to date. 1,506 Bibliographical references about Oriental works were supplied to enquirers during the year under review. The decrease as compared with that of the previous year (2,288) being due mostly to the presence of the Sanskrit Catalogue in the Reading Room, which enables the readers to look up for themselves any minor information that they want. The monthly list of additions to the Oriental Section was regularly published in the local vernacular press. Over 5,200 slips were made for old Bengali collection.

XVII.—Library Training.

The Government of India in November, 1934, were good enough to convey their sanction for opening a Library Training Class in the

Imperial Library. The fact was announced in the Press and enquiries and applications at once started pouring in and in fact continue to be received even now. The number of such enquiries and applications is about 300. Only 20 persons were to be admitted to the Class and the work was started from 1st July 1935. The class is to last for six months. Eight of the persons admitted are already working in libraries. The students hail from the Punjab, Delhi, Bihar and Orissa, Bengal, Central Provinces, United Provinces and Bombay.

XVIII.—Stock-taking.

The checking of the stock of that portion of the Library for which the shelf-list was prepared some time back was started on 6th December, 1934, and it lasted up to 29th December, 1934. As it is the first time that the stock-taking of the Library was held, some inconvenience was caused to the reading public by closing the Library for the said period. This could not be otherwise, as the whole staff had to be employed for the work, which enabled us not only to know our losses, but also to rectify so many mistakes, the number of which has not perhaps been exhausted.

The result of the checking by various groups is being still examined and consolidated. As the report about checking the stock has not yet been considered by the Library Council, it will be premature to state the result at this stage.

XIX.—Office.

The total number of letters received and despatched is 4,051 and 4,531 respectively; which is more by 432 and 690 than that of previous year. In addition to this, 1,545 (385 less) reminders were despatched to recover overdue books. Comparative figures for the last three years are given in Appendix XII.

The total number of cases recorded and indexed comes to 964, which is about half of the previous year. The work was done for only five months, hence it has again fallen into arrears.

APPENDIX I.

Finance.

I.—Grant.

	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A. 1.—Pay of Officers—*Voted* .	9,800	11,200	11,700
A. 2.—Pay of Establishment .	28,300	29,300	29,300
A. 3.—Purchase of Books, etc. .	8,000	8,000	8,000
A. 4.—Other Expenses (including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.)	7,000	7,500	3,700
Total .	53,100	56,000	52,700
A. 5.—*Deduct* amount recovered from the Bengal Government.	—16,000	—16,000	—16,000

II.—Expenditure.

	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A. 1.—Pay of Officers—*Voted* .	9,749	10,813	11,829
A. 2.—Pay of Establishment .	27,920	29,167	29,178
A. 3.—Purchase of Books, etc. .	9,186	7,744	9,841
A. 4.—Other Expenses (including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.)	7,159	3,041	3,306
Total .	54,014	50,765	54,154

APPENDIX II.

Reading Room Statistics.

	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
Number of Visitors . . .	43,448	38,101	45,412
Number of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.	31,346	28,598	28,166

APPENDIX III.

Detailed figures showing the number of readers and books requisitioned from the Stack Room during 1934-35.

	Ordinary days.			Sundays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Holidays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Days on which the Reading Rooms were closed.
	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	
Total	258	40,000	25,833	49	3,071	1,492	30	2,341	841	28
Daily average	..	155	100	..	63	30	..	78	28	..

APPENDIX IV.

Analytical statement by subjects of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.

Subject.	Years. 1932-33. Vols.	1933-34. Vols.	1934-35. Vols.
Administration—			
1. Official Publications	915	318	424
2. Non-Official Publications	1,338	649	803
3. Agriculture (including manufacture)	477	561	496
4. Archœology	584	570	525
5. Astronomy	622	558	471
6. Bibliography	456	376	448
7. Biography	1,147	946	1,338
8. Biology	376	324	345
9. Botany	557	292	234
10. Chemistry	564	411	203
11. Education	750	434	268
12. Engineering, etc.	694	489	259
13. Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	456	575	400
14. Fine Arts, etc.	993	714	397
15. Folklore, Mythology, etc.	518	726	579
16. Geography and Travels	1,129	516	422
17. Geology	405	198	116
18. History	1,995	2,636	2,748
19. Law	1,336	1,959	1,848
20. Literature	5,853	6,623	8,870
21. Mathematics	472	277	171
22. Medicine	898	301	176
23. Numismatics	310	130	108
24. News Papers	765	648	701
25. Magazines	862	833	1,041
26. Philology	511	403	391
27. Philosophy	1,009	1,001	790
28. Physics	477	210	115
29. Political Economy	1,297	1,862	1,797
30. Religion	1,775	1,180	891
31. Science (General)	673	829	312
32. Social Reform, etc.	839	597	260
33. Sports, Games, etc.	181	357	152
34. Zoology	112	95	70
Total	31,346	28,598	28,166

APPENDIX V.

Linguistic analysis of books acquired by purchase and presentation, except official publications.

Language.	Years. 1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
1. Ahom	1	..	..
2. Albanic	..	1	..
3. Arabic	15	95	25
4. Assamese	5	6	6
5. Bengali	234	297	301
6. Burmese	2	1	..
7. Canarese	1	2	..
8. Danish	..	1	..
9. Dutch	..	9	17
10. English	..	1,163	1,317
11. European Languages (other than English)	1,343	..	..
12. French	..	15	29
13. German	..	30	154
14. Gujrati	1	3	4
15. Hindi	60	68	36
16. Italian	..	1	6
17. Javanese	..	2	..
18. Kashmiri	..	1	..
19. Latin	..	1	1
20. Malayalam	1	2	1
21. Marathi	17	10	..
22. Nepali	..	..	1
23. Pahlavi	..	2	..
24. Pali	3	3	..
25. Persian	15	33	30
26. Punjabi	1	2	2
27. Russian	..	1	1
28. Sanskrit	180	153	128
29. Santali	..	..	2
30 Spanish	..	57	28
31. Tamil	6	..	1
32. Telegu	..	..	1
33. Urdu	65	71	51
34. Uriya	..	4	..
Total	1,950	2,034	2,142

APPENDIX VI.

List of Donors of books.

Donors.	No. of vols.
1. Allam, Mol. Abdul, Burdwan	122
2. American Legislation Association, Colorado	5
3. Amory Vida Barcelona	5
4. Andhra University	2
5. Annamalai University	3
6. Asiatic Society of Bengal	2
7. Bureau of Translation, Hyderabad	10
8. Bengal Chamber of Commerce	3
9. Biblioteca Nacional, Buenois Aires	7
10. Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab	9
11. Bombay University	2
12. Bose, Mr. J. N.	5
13. British Academy, London	5
14. British Museum	15
15. Burma Book Club, Ld.	4
16. Calcutta Medical Sub-Committee of Medical College Centenary Association	2
17. Calcutta University	20
18. Chakravartty, Mr. S., Howrah	2
19. Chatterjee, Mr. K. R.	5
20. Commercial Library, Calcutta	2
21. Connemara Public Library, Madras	2
22. Constable & Co., London	2
23. Cremation Society, London	2
24. Curator for the Publication of Oriential Manuscripts, Trivandrum	8
25. De, Mr. C. C.	3
26. Det, Kengelige Danske Videnskabornes, Selskab	44
27. Development Department, Mysore State	2
28. Director, Oriental Institute, Baroda	6
29. Director, University of London	2
30. District Charitable Society, Calcutta	2
31. Gandhi, Mr. M. P.	2
32. Geological Survey of India	2
33. Godry, Mr. A Paris	2
34. Goswami, Mr. C. L.	2
35. Gupta, Mr. H C. Das	2
36. Gupta, Mr. S. R.	2
37. Harvard University Library	2
38. Hispanic Society, America	2
39. Hantington Library, California	2
40. Imperial Secretariat Library, Government of India	41
41. Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay	3
42. Indian Periodicals, Ld., Allahabad	3
43. Indian Red Cross Society	2
44. Librarian, Forbes Library, City of Northampton, Mass.	2
45. London Directory Co., Ld.	2
46. Lucknow University	4
47. Lyons, Mr. M.	2
48. McGill University	2
49. Madras University	14
50. Misra, Mr. V. P., Gwalior	2
51. Mukerjee, Mr. Harinarayan	4
52. Mukerjee, Mr. P. K.	3
53. Mysore University	2
54. National Laboratory Psychical Research, London	3
55. Neogi, Mr. N. C., Calcutta	66
56. Notgemeinschaft der Deutschen Wissenschaft, Berlin	11
57. Oklahama University Press, U. S. A.	4
58. Parsee Panchayet Fund Trustees, Bombay	4
59. Patent Office, London	8
60. Patna University	5
61. Permanent Court of International Justice and Peace	4
62. Political Club, Calcutta	2
63. Punjab Engineering Congress	2
64. Queensland Library	4
65. Rangoon University	3
66. Resident, Jaipur	5
67. Reychler, Mr. L.	2
68. Roy, Mr. Ram Mohon	3
69. Saint Andrews University Library, Scotland	3
70. Saint Louis University, Missouri	7
71. Sarkar, Prof. Benoy Kumar, Calcutta	3
72. Shree Sanatan Dharma Seva, Calcutta	2
73. Societas Scientiaum Fennica, Helsingfors	28
74. Standard Literature Co., Calcutta	6
75. Stein, Sir Aurel	3
76. Superintendent of Archæology, Gwalior State	2
77. Superintendent, Government Press, U. P.	4
78. Superintendent, Government Printing, Bombay	9
79. Sur, Mr. A. K.	5
80. Swami Sivananda Saraswatti, Dehra Dun	4
81. Swami Tridandi, Berlin	2
82. Tercentenary Commission of the State of Connecticut	4
83. Udayapur Darbar, Udayapur	2
84. Uppsala University	6
85. Vidyabhusana, Amullya Charan	2
86. Youssouf Kamal, Prince	2
	527
Other donors who presented one volume each	173
	700

APPENDIX VII.

Periodicals received in the Library.

	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
Weekly and Fortnightly	31	32	32
Monthly	138	139	139
Bi-monthly	3	5	5
Quarterly	74	74	77
Others	76	79	71
Newspapers	22	22	19
Gazettes	11	12	12
Total	355	363	355

APPENDIX VIII.

Binding Section.

Years.	Books and Periodicals.	Newspapers and Gazettes.	Total.
1932-33	3,428	108	3,536
1933-34	3,550	126	3,676
1934-35	2,605	209	2,814

APPENDIX IX.

Lending Department.

Borrowers.	Years.		
	1932-1933.	1933-1934.	1934-1935.
Volumes lent to Government Offices	1,455	1,304	2,838
Volumes lent to Public	9,421	10,455	9,456
Total	10,876	11,759	12,294

APPENDIX X.

Statement of Books lent according to Provinces.

Provinces.	1932-33.		1933-34.		1934-35.	
	No. of Vols.	Percentage.	No. of Vols.	Percentage.	No. of Vols.	Percentage.
Assam	13	·11	59	·5	38	·309
Bengal (*excluding* Calcutta)	964	8·86	1,033	8·78	1,694	13·779
Bihar and Orissa	36	·33	30	·2	50	·403
Bombay	66	·6	107	·9	25	·203
Burma	5	·048	8	·068	..	..
Central India	262	2·4	334	2·8	779	6·336
Central Provinces	125	1·14	155	1·3	66	·536
Madras	77	·7	101	·85	143	1·163
North-West Frontier Province	..	..	8	·068	61	·496
Punjab	59	·54	54	·4	130	1·057
United Provinces	210	1·93	178	1·5	162	1·317
London	..	..	..	..	1	·008
Total	1,820	17	2,067	17·366	3,149	25·607
Calcutta	9,056	83·26	9,692	82·421	9,145	74·393
GRAND TOTAL	10,876	100	11,759	100	12,294	100

APPENDIX XI.

Official Section.

	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
A.—Number of publications, received from the various departments of the Government of India and Provincial Governments, either by purchase, or free of charge—			
1. Government of India, etc.	1,174	1,196	1,166
2. Assam	69	64	71
3. Bengal	163	141	163
4. Bihar and Orissa	109	93	100
5. Bombay	225	196	173
6. Burma	226	197	162
7. Central Provinces	115	93	125
8. Madras	149	175	105
9. North-West Frontier Province	159	222	53
10. Punjab	..	..	155
11. United Provinces	111	109	122
12. Indian States	71	38	60
13. Maps	261	312	237
Total	2,832	2,836	2,692
B.—Other publications—			
1. Parliamentary Publications and Blue Books	867	816	784
2. U. S. A. Government Documents	4,190	3,909	1,013
3. League of Nations	485	312	260
Total	5,542	5,082	2,057

APPENDEX XI—*contd.*

Official Section—contd.

	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
C.—Miscellaneous—			
1. Australia			
2. Ceylon			
3. France			
4. Germany			
5. Italy	241	202	199
6. Japan			
7. Malay			
8. New Zealand			
9. Philippine			
10. West Indies			
Grand Total .	8,615	8,120	4,948

APPENDIX XII.

Statement showing the number of letters received in and issued from the Imperial Library.

	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934 35.
Receipts	3,775	3,619	4,051
Issues	5,509	3,841	4,531
Reminders for return of book lent . . .	1,331	1,930	1,545

MGIPC—S5—III-3-95—9-1-36—500.

24 MAY 1937

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1935-36.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1937

Report on the working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1935-36.

I.—Period.

The report covers the period from 1st April, 1935 to 31st March 1936.

II.—Administration.

Library Council.—The term of office of the former Council having come to an end, the Government of India, in their letter No. F. 48-4/35-E., dated the 8th August, 1935 intimated the reconstitution of the Library Council with effect from the 1st August of that year, as shown under :—

1. Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, *ex-officio* Chairman.

Members.

2. The Honourable Mr. Justice C. Bartley, I.C.S., Bar.-at-Law. 3. Mr. Razaur Rahman Khan, B.L., M.L.C.	Nominated by the Government of Bengal as their representatives.
4. Mr. Syamaprasad Mookerjee, M.A., B.L., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.C. 5. Professor Praphulla Chandra Mitter, M.A., Ph. D.	Nominated by the University of Calcutta as its representatives.
6. Dr. A. C. Woolner, C.I.E., M.A., D. Litt., F.A.S.B., Vice-Chancellor, University of the Punjab, Lahore. 7. Dr. Wali Muhammad, M.A., Ph. D., I.E.S., Professor of Physics, Lucknow University, Lucknow. 8. Mr. Sachidananda Sinha, Bar.-at-Law, M.L.C., Patna.	Nominated after consultation with the local Governments by the Governor-General in Council to represent interests outside Calcutta.

Sir George Anderson, Kt., C.S.I., C.I.E., having proceeded on leave, his place as Chairman of the Council was taken by Mr. R. M. Statham, C.I.E., I.E.S., from 3rd May to 10th October, 1935.

The Council met only once, during this year, on the 23rd October, and the rest of the work was done in circulation.

Mr. S. P. Mookerjee, M.A., B.L., Bar.-at-Law, was elected Vice-Chairman of the Council at the said meeting, for one year.

It is with a sense of deep regret that the death of Dr. A. C. Woolner, C.I.E., M.A., D. Litt., F.A.S.B., Vice-Chancellor of the University of Punjab, and a member of the Imperial Library Council has to be recorded, which sad event took place on the 7th January, 1936. Dr. Woolner had been connected with the Imperial Library ever since the re-modelling of its Library Council in July, 1929 and had been a very useful member of that body. He took a keen interest in library affairs and his opinion was always sound and weighty. His untimely death has been a great loss to the Indian Library Movement, in which he was greatly interested; in fact he had identified himself with that in more than one way.

III.—Copyright Scheme.

Nothing was heard during the year under report from the Government of India concerning the scheme, which seems to be still under consideration.

IV.—Finance.

Detailed and comparative figures will be found in Appendix I, which appears in a somewhat different form at the instance of the Audit authorities. The total receipts from various sources amount to a little over Rs. 1,600; and the Government grant is higher by about Rs. 4,300, than that of the previous year.

Item A-3, Purchase of Books includes an expenditure of about Rs. 500 on account of the printing of another portion of "Tarikh-i-Herat", and a sum of Rs. 300 spent on purchase of books for the use of the Library Training Class.

Some excess expenditure had to be incurred under the head "Pay of Establishment", as some members of the staff had to proceed on medical leave towards the end of financial year, when the savings had been surrendered.

Two temporary sorters employed in connection with the Card Catalogue work were paid out of the interest derived from the investment into fixed deposit of money received as security from borrowers of books.

V. Audit of Library Accounts.

The accounts of the Library for the year 1934-35 were audited in November 1935. Apart from a few minor omissions or irregularities, the report showed that the state of affairs was generally quite satisfactory.

VI.—Reading Rooms.

The Reading Rooms were open for 351 days during the year under report, as against 337 of last year. This number includes 50 Sundays and 31 holidays, when the Reading Rooms open from 2—5 in the afternoon. They were entirely closed for 15 days as against 28 of the previous year.

The total number of persons who visited the Reading Rooms was 54,215 as against 45,412 or 8,803 more than last year. The daily average comes to 154 as compared with 135 of the previous year. Besides the publications available in the Reading Rooms for reference and study, 29,063 publications were requisitioned from the Stack Room. This number exceeds that of last year by 897. The daily average works out to be 83 as against 84 of last year.

Appendix II will give comparative figures for the last three years whereas Appendix III will give detailed figures for readers and books consulted during 1935-36.

A study of Appendix IV (analytical statement by subjects) will afford interesting reading. Whereas Literature, History and Law continue to occupy the first three positions, Biography has come to occupy the fourth place and Religion, which at one time was quite up the scale has been relegated to the 8th position now. The last place continues to be occupied by Zoology, whereas Numismatics its companion of last year has gone up by two places. Sports and Games is second from the bottom. Barring Folklore and Mythology, Administration and Biography, all the subjects show an upward tendency which is most apparent in the case of Botany; Chemistry; Engineering; Fine Arts; Geology; Mathematics; Medicine and Physics.

During the year under report 2,838 three-year admission tickets were issued, as against 2,622 of last year, or 216 more. 5,450 day-tickets were issued during the same period, which number exceeds that of last year by 921. The daily average of the two kinds of tickets works out to be 8 and 16 respectively.

Thirty-two research workers availed themselves of the facilities of the Private Reading Room as against 21 of the previous year.

79 volumes were added to the Reading Rooms collection, as compared with 67 of last year; whereas 118 were withdrawn for one reason or other. It is to be regretted that 9 volumes were lost from the Reading Rooms during this year, which necessitated stricter watch upon those using the Reading Rooms.

VII.—Accessions.

The total number of all kinds of publications added to the Library during the year 1935-36 comes to 7,814 as compared with 7,090 of the previous year, or 724 in excess. A linguistic analysis of the accessions will be found in Appendix V. 561 volumes were presented to the Library during the year, of which 422 were in European languages, 100 in Indian languages, and 39 in Arabic, Persian and Urdu. This number is exclusive of books received from the Bengal Library, of which the number comes to 475. The number of books presented to the Library is less by 139. The names of donors of more than one volume are given in Appendix VI, and the thanks of the Imperial Library Council are due to all those persons and institutions who so very kindly persented these books.

Of the total additions to the Library, 5,455 were official publications of the Central and Provincial Governments of India and the Governments of certain other countries. Detailed figures will be found in Appendix XI.

The " List of Additions " was supplied to the English and Vernacular Press, as before ; and it is getting better publicity now. The Library Authorities are grateful to the Associated Press of India and such of the papers as are giving publicity to the list, for the courtesy shown in this direction.

VIII.—Shelf-list.

It was stated in the last report that the work of completing the Shelf List of the Library had been started with the help of temporary staff, sanctioned for the purpose. That staff was able to shelf-list about 50,000 volumes during the year under report, for which about 15,000 cards were written. The Sections that have been dealt with during this period are : Periodicals ; League of Nations Publications ; Parliamentary Publications ; Books in Sanskrit, and Hindi ; and a portion of the Bengali books. The work is still going on. Besides the usual a vantages of the shelf list as a tool for stock-taking, we are ascertaining by and by the number of volumes in each section, and ultimately the exact number of volumes contained in the library.

IX.—Cataloguing.

The total number of books except official publications and those in oriental languages catalogued during the year under report comes to 1,338, for which 8,609 cards were prepared. This number shows an increase of 109 and 1,747 respectively, as compared with the previous year. The number of works shelf-listed was 1,233, for which 1,173 cards were prepared. This means an increase of 249 and 297 respectively over the last year's figures.

In the report for 1934-35 reference was made to the action taken to bring the card catalogues of the library upto date ; and it was also

mentioned that by incorporating about 56,000 entries, the Author catalogue had been brought to date. The same process was adopted in the case of Subject Index, and the two original printed volumes were cut and the entries pasted on cards, which were amalgamated with the existing subject index on cards. About 49,000 entries were treated in this manner to have a complete Subject Index on cards.

Thus the two main card catalogues (author and subject) are up to date and local readers have no longer to consult the several volumes of printed catalogues to get the required information.

X.—Periodicals.

The total number of papers, periodicals and gazettes, received during the year was 367 or 12 more than those received during the previous year.

Seven journals, namely (1) Contemporary India ; (2) Deutsche Literaturzeitung ; (3) Usha ; (4) Biblio ; (5) Al Hilal ; (6) Sangeeta ; and (7) Journal of Vedic Studies, were sanctioned to be added, by purchase.

Another seven, namely (1) Indian Journal of Venereal Diseases ; (2) Mayurbhanj Chronicle ; (3) Primitive Man ; (4) Berliner Mantshefte ; (5) Wandlung ; (6) Olympic Games ; (7) Indian States Bulletin were received as gifts. Two journals, Eastern Art and Al Muqtataf were discontinued either for irregular supply, or discontinuance.

The total expenditure under this head was about Rs. 1,770 and the total number of periodicals purchased was 102. Appendix VII will show the figures by periodicity for the last three years.

XI.—Weeding.

During the course of shelf-listing of the "Periodical Publications", the "League of Nations" publications and the "Parliamentary Publications", odd or duplicate volumes of about 224 periodicals, and about 728 spare or duplicate volumes of the other publications named above were suggested to be discarded. The Council agreed to this proposal in their Annual Meeting held in 1935. A printed list of these publications was consequently circulated among the libraries eligible to receive the spare publications of the library and except a few volumes, all were taken by these libraries.

XII.—Care of books and binding.

The usual cleaning of racks and books was carried out throughout the year, and the general cleanliness is satisfactory. More racks are needed to remove congestion and making room for additions. The Library Council has approved of providing steel-racks in the two vacant rooms on the ground floor and the proposal is before the Government of India for their approval.

Binding.—In all, 2,970 volumes were sent to the Government of India Press for binding, the number being a little higher than last year's. Comparative figures for three years will be found in Appendix VIII.

XIII.—Lending Section.

In all 13,374 volumes were lent out, which show an increase of 1,080 volumes over the previous year's figures.

Out of this number, 3,901 volumes were lent for Government use (1,063 more) while 9,473 were lent to the public or 17 more than last year. Appendix IX will show the comparative figures for the last three years.

Appendix X shows the number and percentage of books lent out to various Provinces, etc., Calcutta's percentage is going down, for it is 71 as against 74 of last year; but it shows that other places are deriving more benefit, by and by. Bengal excluding Calcutta, borrowed 16 books out of every hundred, as against 14 of last year; while all other provinces combined got only about 13 or 1 per cent. more.

The number of Reminders issued during 1935-36 was reduced to 466 from 1,545 of last year.

A sum of Rs. 16,084-6-0 was deposited by borrowers of books and Rs. 15,267-6-0 withdrawn, or the net gain for the year was Rs. 817. The amount in hand on the 31st March 1936 was Rs. 24,724-10-3. The amounts of Rs. 3,500 and Rs. 18,500 which were deposited in fixed account were transferred to the Personal Ledger Account of the Librarian on the 16th December 1935 and 12th February 1936 respectively, under orders from the Government of India.

XIV.—Official Section.

In all, 5,455 volumes were added to this section, during the year under report, of which 1,123 were supplied by the various departments of the Government of India and their subordinate and attached offices; whereas 1,800 volumes were received from various Provincial Governments, either on payment or free of charge. The figures for the Central Government show a slight decrease (43), whereas the total figures and those pertaining to provinces show an increase of about 500 and 600 respectively. Parliamentary publications and Blue books numbered 847 as against 784, while the U. S. A. publications show an increase of about 300 volumes over last year, the total being 1,323. The League of Nations supplied 336, or 76 more publications; whereas certain Colonial Governments and some foreign countries presented the library with 227 volumes, or 27 more. The thanks of the Library Council are due to all these Governments for the interest they have exhibited in this library.

Out of the total number of publications received, 420 were received for the first time and as such had to be catalogued ; while 5,035 were serial publications for which entries in progress slips were made. The pasting of correction slips has been going on during the year, but the arrears in this case are not yet cleared.

Comparative figures for the last three years will be found in Appendix XI.

XV.—Buhar Library.

157 books were added to this section as against 106 of the previous year. Of the total number, 33 were in Arabic, 25 in Persian and 99 in Urdu. Out of the total additions, 113 were purchased, 5 were received from Bengal Library and 39 were presented.

The number of persons who used this Library was 3,743 as against 4,960 of the previous year. 249 books were lent out of this collection and the number of bibliographical references supplied was 204.

The re-organisation of this section is going on. 204 old books were accessioned and a Dictionary Catalogue of Arabic books (excepting Subject entries) is being prepared and 310 volumes have actually been catalogued.

XVI.—Oriental Section.

478 volumes were added to this section as against 483 during the previous year, for which 2,009 cards and slips were prepared. The decrease of 5 books explained below is due to a smaller number of books having been acquired in languages other than Sanskrit, Bengali and Hindi. There is a marked increase in the number of books presented which comes to 100 as against 73 in the previous year. A statement by languages showing books added is given as Appendix V ; and a list of Donors of two or more books will be found in Appendix VI.

Of the total additions, only 59 were purchased (Sanskrit 42, Hindi 13, Pali 2, Bengali 1 and Malayalam 1) while 319 were received from the Bengal Library, and 100 were presented. The number of Bengali books added to this section comes to 304 ; that of Sanskrit to 129 ; of Hindi to 36 ; and of other languages to 9, as against 301, 128, 36 and 18 respectively.

616 cards were added to the new Sanskrit Catalogue placed in the Reading Room, which is being kept up to date. 1,565 Bibliographical references about oriental works were supplied to enquirers, during the year under review, the number exceeding that of the previous year by 59. The monthly list of additions to the Oriental Section was regularly published in the local vernacular press. Over 5,300 slips were made for the old Bengali collection.

XVII.—Library Training Class.

It was mentioned in the last report that a Library Training Class had been opened in the Library from July, 1935. The lectures were over by the end of September, when the class closed for about a fortnight for Puja holidays. On re-opening, practical work was started, which continued till about the middle of December, 1935. The examination started on the 16th December, and was over in four days. The result was declared on the 18th of February, 1936.

One student left the class shortly after its start, but his place was taken at once by another. Only nineteen appeared for the examination, as another had to leave owing to his having fallen ill towards the end of the course. Seventeen were successful, out of which 10 passed the examination with distinction.

Provincial and communal statistics of the class are given below :—

Bengal, 9 ; Punjab, 2 ; Bombay, 2 ; Bihar and Orissa, 2 ; Delhi, 3 ; Central Provinces, 1 ; United Provinces, 1 ; total 20.

Hindus, 14 ; Muslims, 4 ; Sikh, 1 ; Indian Christian, 1. Seven of these were already working in Libraries, while thirteen were outsiders. One of the successful students has been taken as Librarian in the Geological Survey of India, while four are working in the Imperial Library in temporary vacancies.

Enquiries as to when the next class will be opened are still coming in.

The names of the successful candidates are given below :—

1. Prafulla Nath Mukherji, M.A., B.L.	Bengal.
2. A. K. Ghosh, B.A.	Bengal.
3. K. S. K. Swamy, B.A., LL.B., A. L.A.	Bombay.
4. Nakhatra Lal Sen, M.A.	Bengal.
5. K. K. Guha Roy, B.A.	B. & O.
6. Arabinda Bhushan Sen Gupta, B.A.	Bengal.
7. Balgobind Srivastava, M.A.	Delhi.
8. Harnam Singh, B.A., S.A.V.	Punjab.
9. Bhaktiprasad Trivedi.	Bombay.
10. Charles Victor Misra, M.Sc.	C. P.
11. Syed Hamid Hussain Rizvi, B.A.	Delhi.
12. Subodh Kumar Mukherji, M.A., B.L.	Bengal.
13. Sukhendu Chatterji, B.A.	Bengal.

14. Srigopal Banerji, B.A.	Bengal.
15. Jyotsna Nath Chanda, M.A., B.L.	Bengal.
16. Sadhan Kumar Sen, B.A.	Bengal.
17. Fazl Mohammed Khan	Delhi.

XVIII.—Stock-taking.

The result of the Stock-taking of the books in European languages was laid before the Library Council, in their meeting held in October, 1935. About 50,000 volumes were checked, and about three thousand call-numbers were found for which corresponding books were not forthcoming. It does not however mean that all these have been lost. Several books have been transferred from one Section to another; while several call-numbers had been left unused. Shelf-cards for about two thousand volumes had to be prepared, and the call numbers of several hundred books had to be corrected. Ninety-three books were not traceable at the time of stock-taking and the Council decided to continue the search for these. The result of this search is to be reported to the Council in their next meeting, but it is encouraging. According to the Council's instructions, a list of the blank numbers has been made for future reference, and dummies showing the numbers to be blank have been placed on the shelves. But all the same, it cannot be claimed that no books have been lost from the establishment of the library to the time of the compilation of the shelf-list. The final result will be reported in the next report.

XIX.—Office.

The total number of letters received and despatched is 5,856 and 4,527 respectively. The former exceeds similar figures for the last year by 1,805 and the latter is less by 4. In addition to this, 587 (958 less) reminders were despatched to recover overdue books. Comparative figures for the last three years are given in Appendix XII.

The total number of cases recorded and indexed comes to 1,075, or 111 more than last year. The work was done for about eight months and is not yet up to date.

APPENDIX I.

Finance.

I.—Receipts.

——	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
1. Sale of Duplicate Tickets . .	..	..	49 0 0
2. Sale of Catalogues . . .	..	..	67 0 3
3. Deposits forfeited . . .	..	..	9 0 0
4. Miscellaneous Receipts . .	..	..	12 2 0
5. Interest from fixed Deposit . .	..	..	440 0 0(*a*)
6. Fines realised from borrowers of books.	..	..	79 12 0
7. Fees realised from students of tthe Library Training Class.	..	..	950 0 0
Total .	..	..	1,606 14 3

(*a*) Not credited to Government Account—*vide* item 5 under Expenditure.

II.—Grant (Final figures).

——	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A. 1—Pay of Officers (Voted) . .	11,200	11,700	12,600
A. 2—Pay of Establishment . .	29,300	29,300	31,100
A. 3—Purchase of Books, etc. . .	8,000	8,000	9,800
A. 4—Other Expenses (including Allowances, Honoraria etc.) .	7,500	3,700	3,550
Total .	56,000	52,700	57,050
Deduct—amount received from the Government of Bengal.	—16,000	—16,000	—16,600

APPENDIX I—*contd.*

III.—Expenditure.

——	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Pay of Officers (Voted) . .	10,813	11,829	12,580	0	0
2. Pay of Establishment . .	29,167	29,178	31,452	0	0
3. Purchase of Books, etc. . .	7,744	9,841	9,972	0	0
4. Other expenses (including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.).	3,041	3,306	3,560	0	0
Total expenditure from Budget Grant.	50,765	54,154	57,564	0	0(*b*)
5. Establishment engaged out of interest from fixed deposit.	..	..	472	2	0(*c*)
Grand Total .	..	..	58,036	2	0

(*b*) Rs. 16,600 of the expenditure were paid out of the contribution from Bengal Government.

(*c*) A sum of Rs. 32-2-0 was paid out of the interest money of previous years.

APPENDIX II.

Reading Room Statistics.

——	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Number of Visitors	38,101	45,412	54,215
Number of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.	28,598	28,166	29,063

APPENDIX III.

Detailed figures showing the number of readers and books requisitioned from the Stack Room, during 1935-36.

—	Ordinary days.			Sundays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Holidays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Days on which the Reading Rooms were closed.
	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	
Total	270	48,461	26,473	50	3,300	1,556	31	2,454	1,034	15
Daily average . .	..	179	98	..	66	31	..	79	33	..

APPENDIX IV.

Analytical statement by subjects of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.

Subjects.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
	Vols.	Vols.	Vols.
Administration :—			
1. Official Publications	318	424	123
2. Non-Official Publications	649	803	541
3. Agriculture (Including manufacture)	561	496	581
4. Archæology	570	525	540
5. Astronomy	558	471	611
6. Bibliography	376	448	544
7. Biography	946	1,338	1,075
8. Biology	324	345	533
9. Botany	292	234	554
10. Chemistry	411	203	598
11. Education	434	268	685
12. Engineering, etc.	489	259	731
13. Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	575	400	596
14. Fine Arts, etc.	714	397	552
15. Folklore, Mythology, etc.	726	579	545
16. Geography and Travels	516	422	737
17. Geology	198	116	634
18. History	2,636	2,748	1,446
19. Law	1,959	1,848	1,296
20. Literature	6,623	8,870	8,213
21. Mathematics	277	171	486
22. Medicine	301	176	540
23. Numismatics	130	108	353
24. Newspapers	648	701	494
25. Magazines	833	1,041	851
26. Philology	403	391	561
27. Philosophy	1,001	790	875
28. Physics	210	115	557
29. Political Economy	1,862	1,797	982
30. Religion	1,180	891	777
31. Science (General)	829	312	530
32. Social Reform, etc.	597	260	464
33. Sports, Games, etc.	357	152	287
34. Zoology	95	70	171
Total	28,598	28,166	29,063

APPENDIX V.

Linguistic analysis of books acquired by purchase and presentation, except official publications.

Language.	Years.		
	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
1. Albanic	1	..	..
2. Arabic	95	25	33
3. Assamese	6	6	1
4. Bengali	297	301	304
5. Burmese	1	..	..
6. Canarese	2	..	..
7. Danish	1	..	10
8. Dutch	9	17	15
9. English	1,163	1,317	1,581
10. Finnish	..	..	3
11. French	15	29	32
12. German	30	154	41
13. Greek	..	..	10
14. Gujrati	3	4	..
15. Hindi	68	36	36
16. Italian	1	6	8
17. Javanese	2	..	1
18. Kashmiri	1	..	..
19. Latin	1	1	7
20. Malayalam	2	1	2
21. Marathi	10	..	1
22. Nepali	..	1	..
23. Pahlavi	2	..	..
24. Pali	3	..	2
25. Persian	33	30	25
26. Punjabi	2	2	1
27. Russian	1	1	..
28. Sanskrit	153	128	129
29. Santali	..	2	1
30. Spanish	57	28	14
31. Swedish	..	..	3
32. Tamil	..	1	..
33. Telugu	..	1	..
34. Urdu	71	51	99
35. Uriya	4	..	..
Total	2,034	2,144	2,360

APPENDIX VI.

List of Donors of books.

Donors.	No. of vols.
1. Abdul Ali, Mr. A. F. M.	3
2. Abdul Karim, Maulvi	9
3. Abu Zafar, Maulvi	3
4. Academia de la histoire de Cuba	11
5. Agra University	3
6. Azizuddin, Mr. M.	5
7. B. B. C., London	2
8. Beck, Frau. Adrienne, Vienna	2
9. Bengal Chamber of Commerce	3
10. Blackwell Ltd., Oxford, England	2
11. Board of Economic Enquiry, Punjab	2
12. Bombay University	3
13. Bose, Mr. R. C.	2
14. Brahmachari, Mr. Sitalprasad	2
15. British Library of Political and Economic Science	6
16. British Museum	11
17. Calcutta University	27
18. Carnegie Endowment Trust	2
19. Chase National Bank, N. Y.	2
20. Constable and Co., London	2
21. Consulate General for China, Calcutta	3
22. Consulate General for Japan, Calcutta	4
23. Curator, State Libraries, Baroda	2
24. Dacca University	6
25. Det. Kengelige Danska Videnskabernes, Selskab	26
26. Ratlam, Dowan of	2
27. Director General of Commercial Intelligence	2
28. Director, Oriental Institute, Baroda	5
29. Europa Publication Ltd., London	2
30. Education Department Book Distribution Bureau, Calcutta	5
31. Gandhi, Mr. M.	3
32. Geological Survey of India	22
33. George Washington Bicentennial Commission	5
34. Hobbs, Major H.	2
35. Humfray, Mrs. Mary	2
36. Huntingdon Library, California	3
37. Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay	3
38. Jurgens, Dr., Deutsh Auslandescher Buchtausch	30
39. Kavyatirtha, Mr. R.	2
40. Kotah Durbar	2
41. Madras Library Association	2
42. Madras University	14
43. Mallik, Mr. H.	21
44. Mc.Gill University	2
45. Mysore University	2
46. Najibullah Maulvi, Abu Nasr Muhammad	2
47. Osmania University, Hyderabad	13
48. Rangoon University	3
49. Raya, Mr. H. K.	2
50. Sadbu, Mr. Santinath	5
51. Sarkar, Prof. Benoy Kumar	3
52. Sarkar, Mr. K.	2
53. Societas Scientiarum Fennica, Helsingfors	6
54. Stein, Sir Aurel	2
55. Superintendent, Government Press, U. P.	5
56. Sur, Mr. A. K.	4
57. Shivananda, Swami, Saraswati, Rikhikesh	4
58. Tercentenary Commission of the State of Connecticut	2
59. Umed Ali, Mr.	2
60. Uppsala University	2
61. Vidyabhusan, Mr. A. C.	6
	354
Other donors who presented one volume each	207
	561

APPENDIX VII.

Periodicals received in the Library.

	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
Weekly and Fortnightly	32	32	34
Monthly	139	139	145
Bi-monthly	5	5	6
Quarterly	74	77	80
Others	79	71	71
Newspapers	22	19	19
Gazettes	12	12	12
Total	363	355	367

APPENDIX VIII.

Binding Section.

Years.	Books and Periodicals.	Newspapers and Gazettes.	Total.
1933-34	3,550	126	3,676
1934-35	2,605	209	2,814
1935-36	2,847	122	2,969

APPENDIX IX.

Lending Department.

Borrowers.	Years.		
	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
Volumes lent to Government Offices	1,304	2,838	3,901
Volumes lent to Public	10,455	9,456	9,473
Total	11,759	12,294	13,374

APPENDIX X.

Statement of Books lent according to Provinces.

Provinces.	1933-34.		1934-35.		1935-36.	
	No. of Vols.	Percentage.	No. of Vols.	Percentage.	No. of Vols.	Percentage.
Assam	59	·5	38	·309	39	·291
Bengal (excluding Calcutta)	1,033	8·78	1,694	13·779	2,142	16·016
Bihar and Orissa	30	·2	50	·403	35	·261
Bombay	107	·9	25	·203	102	·762
Burma	8	·068	..	..	..	..
Central India	334	2·8	779	6·336	923	6·901
Central Province	155	1·3	66	·536	108	·807
Madras	101	·85	143	1·163	142	1·061
North-West Frontier Province	8	·068	61	·496	21	·157
Punjab	54	·4	130	1·057	101	·755
United Provinces	178	1·5	162	1·317	191	1·428
London	..	..	1	·008	..	..
Total	2,067	17·366	3,149	25·607	3,804	28·444
Calcutta	9,692	82·421	9,145	74·393	9,570	71·556
Grand Total	11,759	100	12,294	100	13,374	100

APPENDIX XI.

Official Section.

	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
A.—Number of publications, received from various departments of the Government of India and from Provincial Governments, either by purchase, or free of charge—			
1. Government of India, etc. . . .	1,196	1,166	1,123
2. Assam	64	71	74
3. Bengal	141	163	173
4. Bihar and Orissa	93	100	96
5. Bombay	196	173	229
6. Burma	197	162	136
7. Central Province	93	125	182
8. Madras	175	105	114
9. North-West Frontier Province . .	222	53	69
10. Punjab	..	155	177
11. United Provinces	109	122	114
12. Indian States	38	60	49
13. Maps	312	237	186
Total .	2,836	2,692	2,722
B.—Other Publications—			
1. Parliamentary Publications and Blue Books.	816	784	847
2. U. S. A. Government Documents . .	3,909	1,013	1,323
3. League of Nations	312	260	336
Total .	5,082	2,057	2,506

APPENDIX XI—*contd.*

Official Section—contd.

	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
C.—Miscellaneous—			
1. Australia			
2. Ceylon			
3. France			
4. Germany			
5. Italy	202	199	227
6. Japan			
7. Malay			
8. New Zealand			
9. Philippine			
10. West Indies			
Grand Total	8,120	4,948	5,455

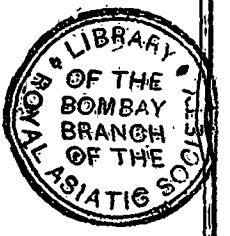
APPENDIX XII.

Statement showing the number of letters received in and issued from the Imperial Library.

	1933-34	1934-35	1935-36
Receipts	3,619	4,051	5,856
Issues	3,841	4,531	4,527
Reminders for return of books lent	1,930	1,545	587

MGIPC—S5—III-5-108 24-2-37—500.

19 FEB 1938



Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1936-37.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1938

Report on the working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1936-37.

I.—Period.

The report covers the period from 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937.

II.—Administration.

Library Council.—Sir George Anderson having vacated the office of Educational Commissioner with the Government of India on the 28th May, 1936, his place as Chairman of the Council was taken by Mr. J. C. Powell-Price, M.A., I.E.S., from 1st June, 1936. He, in turn, was succeeded by Mr. J. E. Parkinson, M.A., I.E.S., as Educational Commissioner and ex-officio Chairman of the Council, from the 9th November, 1936.

The vacancy caused by the death of the late Dr. A. C. Woolner, a Member of the Council, was filled by the nomination of Mr. E. C. Dickinson, M.A., I.E.S., Professor of English, Government College, Lahore, from the 28th May, 1936.

The Council met once during the year, on 30th November, 1936, and transacted the necessary business.

Mr. S. P. Mookerjee was re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Council at the aforesaid meeting for one year.

Librarian.—The Librarian, Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah proceeded on leave on average pay from 25th February, 1937, to 14th April, 1937, when Mr. S. Kumar, Superintendent, Reading Rooms, was appointed to hold charge of the current duties of the office of Librarian.

III.—Copyright Scheme.

The Copyright scheme continues to be under the consideration of the Government of India.

IV.—Finance.

The detailed and comparative figures pertaining to this head will be found in Appendix I. The total receipts from various sources amount to Rs. 216; the reasons for the decrease are that no fees from Training Class were realised, and the deposit money being no longer invested in

fixed deposit, no income is derived from that source now. The Government grant is higher this year by about Rs. 1,200 as compared with previous year.

Item A-3, Purchase of Books includes an expenditure of about Rs. 500, on account of printing a further portion of " Tarikh-i-Herat ".

Some excess expenditure had to be incurred under the head " Purchase of Books " owing to the supply of books outstanding from previous orders and of serial works.

V.—Audit of Library Accounts.

The accounts of the Library for the year 1935-36 were audited in January, 1937. The " Audit Query Statement " supplied by the Audit authorities includes a few minor technical objections, which are yet to be considered by the Library Council.

VI.—Reading Rooms.

The Reading Rooms were open for 353 days during the year, as against 351 of the previous year. This number includes 49 Sundays and 38 other gazetted holidays, when the Reading Rooms were open from 2—5 in the afternoon. They were entirely closed for 12 days as against 15 of last year.

The total number of persons who visited the Reading Rooms was 50,576 as against 54,215; or 3,639 less. The daily average comes to 143 as compared with 154 of last year. Besides the publications available in the Reading Room for reference and study, 40,879 volumes were supplied to readers from the Stack Room, which number exceeds that of last year by 11,816. The daily average works out to be 116 as against 83 of the previous year. Whereas there is an all-round increase in the various figures pertaining to the Reading Rooms, there is a fall in case of readers visiting the place. The reason is not quite apparent, unless it be that counting of readers was defective. Appendix II will give comparative figures for the last three years, whereas Appendix III will give detailed figures for readers, and books consulted, during 1936-37.

The taste of the readers seems to have become somewhat fixed as will be apparent from a perusal of Appendix IV, Analytical Statement by Subjects. Literature, History and Law continue to occupy the first three positions, whereas Science (general) has displaced Biography for the fourth place, and deservedly so, for the number of books consulted in this subject is approximately 3 times that of last year. Religion has perhaps come to stay at the 8th place; whereas Education, Geography and Travels have attained fairly high positions, *viz.*, 6th and 7th respectively. There is a general rise in the number of books consulted, except in the case of Economics where the number has fallen by 65, which is somewhat surprising, as this subject at one time occupied 3rd

or 4th position in the scale. The rise in numbers is especially marked in the case of Archæology, Astronony, Education, Law, Literature, Philosophy, Religion, and Science. Zoology is contented with the position (last) that it has occupied for the last few years; but Numismatics has again come down to be the neighbour of Zoology, whereas Sports and Games have gone up by one step, being 3rd from the bottom.

During the year under report, 2,825 three-year admission tickets were issued, which were 13 less than those issued in 1935-36. The number of day-tickets rose by a little over a thousand, for the figures for the two years are 6,533 and 5,450. The daily average of both kinds of tickets is 8 and 18 respectively.

The number of Research workers who benefited by the facilities offered in the Private Reading Room was 23. Besides Bengal, they come from Bombay, Bihar, Orissa, United Provinces, Punjab, and United States of America. The Universities represented by some of them were the Lucknow, Dacca, Calcutta and Long Island.

103 volumes were added to the Reading Rooms collection, as compared with 79 of last year; whereas 217 were withdrawn for one reason or other. It is gratifying to note that no books were lost from the Reading Room during the year under report.

The seating arrangement in the Reading Rooms was changed during this year, with the result that not only the number of seats was increased by about a dozen (96 in all), but it also afforded better supervision of readers, and provided ample space along book-racks for readers to walk about.

Another improvement is the new arragement for exhibiting periodicals. These are no longer laid on tables; but instead have been arranged in two racks specially made for the purpose. Each rack has three small shelves in each row, with capacity to hold 75 periodicals. These shelves are numbered serially and the periodicals are given corresponding numbers. An alphabetic list of perodicals contained in the racks helps the reader to locate the required journal. This arrangement has appealed to the readers, who appreciate it very much.

VII.—Accessions.

The total number of all kinds of publications added to the Library during the year 1936-37 comes to 8,267, as compared with 7,814 of the previous year, or 453 in excess. A linguistic analysis of the accessions will be found in Appendix V. 754 volumes were presented to the Library during the year, of which 639 were in European languages, 90 in Indian languages and 25 in Arabic, Persian and Urdu. This number is exclusive of books received from the Bengal Library, of which the number comes to 496. The number of books presented

to the Library is in excess by 193, as compared with that of the previous year. The names of donors of more than one volume are given in Appendix VI, and the thanks of the Imperial Library Council are due to all those persons and institutions who so very kindly presented these books.

Of the total additions to the Library, 5,948 were official publications of the Central and Provincial Governments of India and the Governments of certain other countries. Detailed figures will be found in Appendix XI.

The "List of Additions" was supplied to the English and Vernacular Press, as before; and the Library Authorities are grateful to the Associated Press of India and to such of the papers as are giving publicity to the list, for the courtesy shown in this direction.

VIII.—Shelf-list.

Reference was made in the last report to the resumption of the work of shelf-listing. During the year under report another 49,410 volumes were shelf-listed, for which 22,171 cards were prepared. The sections dealt with were Bengali, other Indian languages, Newspapers and gazettes, Reading Room, and Official. Thus up to the end of February 1937, when the temporary staff engaged for the purpose was discharged, 142,610 volumes had in all been shelf-listed, for which 70,970 cards were written. A few thousand Indian Official publications were left, which will be taken up during the current year. The shelf-listing of the big stock of United States of America official publications has yet to be dealt with, which it will not be possible to undertake for some time for certain reasons.

IX.—Cataloguing.

The total number of books excepting official publications and those in Oriental and Indian languages catalogued during the year is 1,333, for which 5,884 cards and entries were made. The progress of cataloguing has been a little slow this year, when it is found that a little over 300 books received during the year had not been catalogued by the time the year closed. The number of works shelf-listed comes to 870 and the number of shelf-cards is 838.

The two card catalogues by Author and Subject, of books in European languages having been brought up-to-date, attention was directed to doing the same with printed catalogues. As such, proposals were submitted to the Government of India for bringing out a second supplement to the Subject Index and a new and revised edition of the Author catalogue. Orders on the subject were being awaited when the year under report closed.

X.—Periodicals.

The total number of papers, periodicals and Gazettes received at the end of the year was 382. Seventeen journals were added to the last year's list and two were discontinued, leaving the total at 382.

Those added were the Burlington Magazine, Indian Roads, the Scrutiny, and two papers, *viz.*, Sunday Times, and the Observer, and two Gazettes, *i.e.*, The Orissa Gazette and The Sind Gazette. Those received as gifts were the (1) Parichaya, (2) Shahana, (3) The Comrade, (4) Illustrated India, (5) Indian Railway Gazette, (6) Joint Stock Companies Journal, (7) The Enlightened India, (8) Interracial Review, (9) The New Era, and (10) The Weekly Market Review. Blackwood's Magazine and Pioneer were the Journal and Newspaper discontinued with the Council's approval.

XI.—Weeding.

The publications referred to in the last report as having been sanctioned to be discarded were distributed among certain libraries during the course of the year.

The Council having agreed to discard such fiction works as did not come up to the standard, the weeding of such works in Bengali language was taken in hand, as the shelf-listing of that section had been going on during the year under report, and this was thought to be the best occasion for undertaking such a work. The weeding was to be done with the advice of Mr. S. P. Mookerjee, who arranged with Messrs. P. R. Sen and S. N. Mitra of the Calcutta University to examine the books. Upon their advice, which was accepted by the Council in their meeting held in November, 1936, 800 volumes of Bengali fiction works were discarded. A list of those books has been prepared for circulation among libraries which are eligible to receive our discarded books.

XII.—Care of books and binding.

The usual dusting and cleaning of books and racks went on throughout the year, and things are satisfactory on the whole in this direction. The proposal for constructing steel racks was turned down by higher authorities ; but the Council represented the case once more and it is expected that the proposed addition of shelf-space will be carried out this time.

Binding.—In all, 2,997 volumes were sent to the Government of India Press for binding, the number being a little higher than last year's. Comparative figures for three years will be found in Appendix VIII.

XIII.—Lending Section.

In all 11,742 volumes were lent out as against 13,374 volumes of the previous year, showing a decrease of 1,632. Out of this number

2,498 volumes were lent for Government use (1,403 less); while 9,244 were lent to the public or 229 less than last year. The general decrease is thus chiefly due to a lesser number of books having been lent to Government offices, etc.

Appendix IX will show the comparative figures for the last three years.

Appendix X shows the number and percentage of books lent out to various Provinces, etc. Calcutta's percentage has gone up, for it is 76 as against 71 of last year. Bengal excluding Calcutta borrowed 11 books out of every hundred as against 16 of the previous year; while all other provinces combined got only about 13 out of every hundred, the same as in the former year.

The number of Reminders issued during 1936-37 was reduced to 364 from 466 of last year.

A sum of Rs. 16,315-8-0 was deposited by borrowers of books and Rs. 15,072-1-0 withdrawn, or the net gain for the year was Rs. 1,243-7-0. The amount in hand on the 31st of March, 1937 was Rs. 25,968-1-3.

XIV.—Official Section.

In all 5,948 publications were received in this section, during the year under report, of which 1,278 were supplied by the various departments of the Government of India and their subordinate and attached offices; whereas 1,326 were received from various Provincial Governments, either on payment or free of charge. The total figures and those for the Central Government show a small increase of 68 and 155 volumes respectively; whereas those for the Provincial Governments are less by 87. Madras is mostly responsible for this decrease.

Parliamentary publications and Blue books numbered 937 as against 847; while the U. S. A. publications outnumber the last year's figures by 516, the total being 1,839. The League of Nations supplied 329 or 7 less; whereas certain Foreign countries and a few Dominions and Colonies together presented 239 volumes or 12 more. The thanks of the Library Council are due to all these Governments for the interest they have exhibited in this library by presenting their valuable publications. No maps were received during this year, as the Survey department have stopped their free supply. Out of the total number of publications received, 2,107 were catalogued, whereas the rest being serial publications, entries were made for them in progress slips. About the time of the shifting of the library to the present premises a large number of U. S. A. publications were not attended to, with the result that work of cataloguing or entering them in progress slips could not be taken up earlier. Anyhow a start was made about the middle of the year under review; and if the progress is maintained, it is hoped to clear the arrears in about two years' time.

The pasting of correction slips was brought and is being kept up-to-date.

Comparative figures for the last three years will be found in Appendix XI.

XV.—Buhar Library.

163 books were added to this section as against 157 of the previous year. Of this number, 36 were in Arabic, 49 in Persian, and 78 in Urdu. Out of the total additions, 112 were purchased, 5 were received from Bengal Library, and 25 were presented. Another 21 volumes were transferred from the general stack room, bringing the total additions to this section to 163.

The number of persons who used this library was 2,941 as against 3,743 of the previous year. 209 books were lent out of this collection and the number of bibliographical references supplied was 235.

The cataloguing of Arabic books was completed during the year under review, and that of the Persian collection was also finished during the year. Urdu books will be taken up next. The form of the catalogue is Dictionary, with subject entries to be added later.

XVI.—Oriental Section.

506 volumes were added to this section as against 478 during the previous year, for which 2,546 cards and slips were prepared. There is on the whole an increase of 28 volumes over that of the previous year despite a fall of 10 in the number of books presented to the library belonging to this section. A statement by languages showing books added is given as Appendix V; and a list of donors of two or more books will be found in Appendix VI.

Of the total additions, 69 were purchased as against 59 which include 47 Sanskrit, 12 Hindi, 2 Pali, 3 Bengali, 3 Marathi, 1 Malayalam and 1 Gondi books; while 347 were received from the Bengal Library, and 90 were presented. The total number of Bengali books added to this section comes to 307, that of Sanskrit to 136, of Hindi to 32, and that of other languages to 31, as against 304, 129, 36 and 9 respectively.

745 cards were added to the new Sanskrit Catalogue, which is thus being kept up-to-date. 1,592 Bibliographical references about oriental works were supplied to enquirers during the year under review, the number exceeding that of the previous year by 27. The monthly list of additions to the Oriental section was regularly published in the local vernacular press. Over 5,400 slips were made for the old Bengali Collection, bringing the catalogue of this collection near completion. It has been decided to print it, and later compile a card catalogue also.

During the course of shelf-listing, the entire collection of Bengali periodicals was examined and about 500 duplicate copies, stray numbers and unimportant issues of periodicals were set apart to be weeded out. A list of those is in the course of preparation.

XVII.—Library Training Class.

The class is to be opened every alternate year; and the Imperial Library Council in their annual meeting accordingly decided to start the second class early in 1937. As the Librarian had to proceed on leave towards the end of February, the opening of the class was postponed to the middle of May, 1937.

XVIII.—Stock-taking.

It was mentioned in the last report that 93 books were not forthcoming at the time of the last stock-taking (1934), and that it was decided to continue the search for those. As a result of this search, 64 books were traced or accounted for, leaving 29 as not traceable. The matter was considered at the Council meeting held in November, 1936, when it was decided that the search for these 29 books should continue for some time more, which will be done when this portion of the library will be checked again.

Owing to the shelf list being under compilation, no other portion of the library could be checked, for it is decided to check the stock a portion at a time.

XIX.—Office.

The total number of letters received and despatched is 3,955 and 4,662 respectively. The former is less by 1,901, while the latter exceeds that of last year by 135. In addition to this, 393 reminders (194 less) were despatched to recover overdue books. The imposition of fine for the late return of books is responsible for the decrease. Comparative figures for the last three years are given in Appendix XII.

The total number of cases recorded and indexed comes to 2,424 or 1,439 more than last year. The work was done for about 10 months and is not yet up-to-date.

APPENDIX I.

Finance.

I.—Receipts.

——	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Sale of Duplicate Tickets . .	..	49 0 0	44 0 0
2. Sale of Catalogues . . .	..	67 0 3	45 12 0
3. Deposits forfeited . . .	..	9 0 0	10 0 0
4. Miscellaneous Receipts . .	..	12 2 0	27 15 6
5. Interest from fixed Deposit . .	..	1,440 0 0(*a*)	..
6. Fines realised from borrowers of books.	..	79 12 0	88 7 0
7. Fees realised from students of the Library Training Class.	..	950 0 0	..
Total .	..	1,606 14 3	216 2 6

(*a*) Not credited to Government Account—*vide* item 5 under expenditure.

II.—Grant (Final figures).

——	1934-35	1935-36.	1936-37.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
A. 1—Pay of Officers (Voted) . .	11,700	12,600	13,233
A. 2—Pay of Establishment . .	29,300	31,100	31,200
A. 3—Purchase of Books, etc. . .	8,000	9,800	10,000
A. 4—Other Expenses (including Allowance, Honoraria, etc.).	3,700	3,550	3,700
Total .	52,700	57,050	58,200
Deduct amount received from the Government of Bengal.	—16,000	—16,000	—16,600

APPENDIX I.—*contd.*

III.—Expenditure

——	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
	Rs.	Rs. A. Ps.	Rs.
1. Pay of Officers (Voted). . .	11,829	12,580 0 0	13,232
2. Pay of Establishment . . .	29,178	31,452 0 0	31,182
3. Purchase of Books, etc. . .	9,841	9,972 0 0	10,542
4. Other expenses (including Allowances, Honoraria, etc.).	3,306	3,560 0 0	3,635
Total expenditure from Budget grant.	54,154	57,564 0 0(*a*)	58,591
5. Establishment engaged out of interest from fixed deposit.	..	472 2 0(*b*)	..

(*a*) Rs. 16,600 of the expenditure were paid out of the contribution from Bengal Government.

(*b*) A sum of Rs. 32-2-0 was paid out of the interest money of previous year.

APPENDIX II.

Reading Room Statistics.

——	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
Number of visitors	45,412	54,215	50,876
Number of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.	28,166	29,063	40,879

APPENDIX III.

Detailed figures showing the number of readers and books requisitioned from the Stack Room, during 1936-37.

	Ordinary days.			Sundays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Holidays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			
	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	Number of days.	Number of Readers.	Number of Requisitions.	Days on which the Reading Rooms were closed.
Total	266	44,243	37,306	49	3,304	1,694	38	3,029	1,879	12
Daily average	..	166	140	..	67	35	..	80	49	..

APPENDIX IV.

Analytical statement by subjects of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.

Subjects.	1934-35. Vols.	1935-36. Vols.	1936-37. Vols.
Administration :—			
1. Official Publications	424	123	237
2. Non-Official Publications	803	541	810
3. Agriculture (Including Manufacture)	496	581	890
4. Archæology	525	540	972
5. Astronomy	471	611	1,032
6. Bibliography	448	544	704
7. Biography	1,338	1,075	1,464
8. Biology	345	533	807
9. Botany	234	554	730
10. Chemistry	203	598	840
11. Education	268	685	1,381
12. Engineering, etc.	259	731	995
13. Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	400	596	729
14. Fine Arts, etc.	397	552	685
15. Folklore, Mythology, etc.	579	545	702
16. Geography and Travels	422	737	1,179
17. Geology	116	634	933
18. History	2,748	1,446	1,760
19. Law	1,848	1,296	1,750
20. Literature	8,870	8,213	10,989
21. Mathematics	171	486	984
22. Medicine	176	540	834
23. Numismatics	105	353	414
24. Newspapers	701	494	671
25. Magazines	1,041	851	1,004
26. Philology	391	561	925
27. Philosophy	790	875	1,095
28. Physics	115	557	791
29. Political Economy	1,797	982	917
30. Religion	891	777	1,135
31. Science (General)	312	530	1,474
32. Social Reform, etc.	260	464	472
33. Sports games, etc.	152	287	419
34. Zoology	70	171	163
Total	28,166	29,063	40,879

APPENDIX V.

Linguistic analysis of books acquired by purchase and presentation, except official publications.

Language.	Years. 1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
1. Arabic	25	33	36
2. Assamese	6	1	3
3. Bengali	301	304	307
4. Canarese	..	..	1
5. Danish	..	10	3
6. Dutch	17	15	17
7. English	1,317	1,581	1,455
8. Finnish	..	3	4
9. French	29	32	40
10. German	154	41	32
11. Gondi	..	..	1
12. Greek	..	10	7
13. Gujarati	4	..	6
14. Hindi	36	36	32
15. Italian	6	8	3
16. Javanese	..	..	1
17. Latin	1	7	7
18. Malayalam	1	2	1
19. Marathi	..	1	3
20. Nepali	1	..	..
21. Pali	..	2	13
22. Persian	30	25	49
23. Punjabi	2	1	..
24. Russian	1	..	4
25. Sanskrit	128	129	136
26. Santali	2	1	..
27. Spanish	28	14	70
28. Swedish	..	3	5
29. Tamil	1	..	1
30. Telugu	1	..	1
31. Tibetan	..	..	1
32. Urdu	51	99	78
Total	2,144	2,360	3,017

APPENDIX VI.

List of Donors of Books.

Donors.	No. of vols.
1. Academia de la historia de Cuba	6
2. Aley, Dr. S.	2
3. Amory Vida Plaza de las Navas, Barcelona	2
4. Andhra University	2
5. Annamalai University	3
6. Arundale, Dr. G. S.	2
7. Asadullah, Khan Bahadur K. M.	9
8. Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureau	2
9. Bankipore Public Library	5
10. Bengal Chamber of Commerce	2
11. Bhuyan, Mr. S. K.	2
12. Biblioteca Nacional, Bogota-Colombia	54
13. Bihar and Orissa Research Society	2
14. Birney, Mr. S. William	2
15. Board of Economic Enquiry, Punjab	6
16. Bombay University	2
17. British Museum.	5
18. Calcutta University	19
19. Cambridge University	2
20. Carnegie Endowment University	2
21. Chatterji, Mr. A.	2
22. Chatterji, Mr. S.	3
23. Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharajah of Mysore	2
24. Constable and Co., London	2
25. Dacca University	2
26. Das Gupta, Mr. C. C.	5
27. Datta, Mr. N.	2
28. Datta, Mr. N. K.	3
29. Det Kongelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab	25
30. Director of Public Instruction, Poona	2
31. Dupays, Mr. Paul, London	11
32. Ehrmann, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney M., California	2
33. Forbes Library, Trustiees of Northampton, Mass.	2
34. Geological Survey of India	2
35. Giri, Mr. K.	2
36. Guha, Mr. J. N.	2
37. Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay	5
38. Indian Red Cross Society, Simla	2
39. Institut Geoaizyki I. Meteorologji, Lwow. Polan	2
40. Madras University	6
41. Mahasthavira, Mr. P.	11
42. Mitra, Mr. S. C., Bangalore	5
43. Moffat, Mr.	2
44. Mookerjee, Mr. H.	3
45. Mysore University	3
46. Nawab Zul-Qadr-Jang Bahadur of Hyderabad	2
47. Osmania University	2
48. Parsee Panchayat Fund Trustees, Bombay	12
49. Queensland University	3
50. Rangoon University	2
51. Ray Chaudhury, Mr. T. N.	3
52. Royal Asiatic Society	2
53. Sarkar, Mr. K.	2
54. Sarvadhikari, Mr. N.	2
55. Sayyad Ali, Mr.	2
56. Shivananda, Swami, Rikhikesh	6
57. Sing, Mr. C.	2
58. Societas Scientiarum Fennica, Helsingfors	6
59. Superintendent, Government Press, U. P.	8
60. Superintendent, Government Press, Madras	3
61. Tercentenary Commission of the State of Connecticut	16
62. Uppsala University	5
63. Vangiya Sahitya Parishat	2
64. Vidyabhusana, Mr. A. C.	6
65. Zaidi, Mr. Saiyad H.	2
	327
Other donors who presented one volume each	427
	754

APPENDIX VII.

Periodicals received in the Library.

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
Weekly and Fortnightly	32	34	34
Monthly	139	145	145
Bi-monthly	5	6	6
Quarterly	77	80	81
Others	71	71	80
Newspapers	19	19	22
Gazettes	12	12	14
Total	355	367	382

APPENDIX VIII.

Binding Section.

Years.	Books and Periodicals.	Newspapers and Gazettes.	Total.
1934-35	2,605	209	2,814
1935-36	2,847	122	2,969
1936-37	2,898	99	2,997

APPENDIX IX.

Lending Department.

Borrowers.	Years.		
	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
Volumes lent to Government Offices	2,838	3,901	2,498
Volumes lent to Public	9,456	9,473	9,244
Total	12,294	13,374	11,742

APPENDIX X.

Statement of Books lent according to Provinces.

Provinces.	1934-35.		1935-36.		1936-37.	
	No. of vols.	Percentage.	No. of vols.	Percentage.	No. of vols.	Percentage.
Assam	38	·309	39	·291	22	·187
Bengal (excluding Calcutta)	1,694	13·779	2,142	16·016	1,320	11·241
Bihar and Orissa	50	·403	35	·261	25	·212
Bombay	25	·203	102	·762	111	·945
Burma	..	..	..	..	..	..
Central India	779	6·336	923	6·901	852	7·256
Central Provinces	66	·536	108	·807	59	·502
Madras	143	1·163	142	1·061	129	1·098
N.-W. F. Provinces	61	·496	21	·157	..	..
Punjab	130	1·057	101	·755	88	·749
United Provinces	162	1·317	191	1·428	156	1·328
Total	3,149	25·607	3,804	28·444	2,763	23·526
Calcutta	9,145	74·393	9,570	71·556	8,979	76·468
Grand Total	12,294	100	13,374	100	11,742	100

APPENDIX XI.

Official Section.

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
A.—Number of publications, received from various departments of the Government of India and from Provincial Governments, either by purchase, or free of charge			
1. Government of India, etc. . . .	1,166	1,123	1,278
2. Assam	71	74	79
3. Bengal	163	173	123
4. Bihar and Orissa	100	96	107
5. Bombay	173	229	220
6. Burma	162	136	176
7. Central Provinces	125	182	184
8. Madras	105	114	44
9. North-West Frontier Province . .	53	69	65
10. Punjab	155	177	163
11. United Provinces	122	114	105
12. Indian States	60	49	60
Total .	2,455	2,536	2,604
B.—Other Publications—			
1. Parliamentary publications and Blue Books	784	847	937
2. U. S. A. Government Documents . .	1,013	1,323	1,839
3. League of Nations	260	336	329
Total .	2,057	2,506	3,105

APPENDIX XI—*contd.*

Official Section—contd.

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
C.—Miscellaneous—			
1. Australia			
2. Canada			
3. Ceylon			
4. China			
5. Italy			
6. Malay	199	227	239
7. New Zealand			
8. Philippines			
9. Portuguese India			
10. South Africa			
11. West Indies			
Grand Total	4,711	5,269	5,948

NOTE.—1. In 1936-37, 2,107 official publications were catalogued, including old and new American publications, for which separate figures are available only from the middle of the official year.

2. The Totals do not include "Maps", of which 237 and 186 were received in previous years 1934-35 and 1935-36, but none in 1936-37.

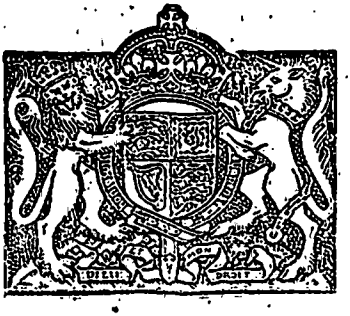
APPENDIX XII.

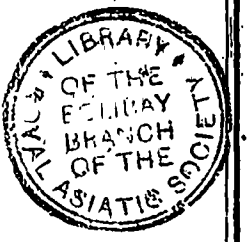
Statement showing the number of letters received in and issued from the Imperial Library.

	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
Receipts.	4,051	5,856	3,955
Issues.	4,531	4,527	4,662
Reminders for return of books lent	1,545	587	393

MGIPC—S5—III-3-132—11-1-38—500.

APR 24 1939





Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1937-38.

CALCUTTA
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS
1939

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1937-38.

I. Period.

The report covers the period from 1st April, 1937 to 31st March, 1938.

II. Accessions.

The total number of all kinds of publications added to the Library during the year 1937-38 comes to 8,768 as compared with 8,267 of the previous year, or 501 in excess. A linguistic analysis of the accessions will be found in Appendix I. 947 volumes were presented to the Library during the year, of which 819 were in European languages, 88 in Indian languages and 40 in Arabic, Persian and Urdu. This number is exclusive of the books received from the Bengal Library, of which the total comes to 514. The number of books presented to the Library is in excess by 211, as compared with that of the previous year. The names of donors of more than one volume are given in Appendix II, and the thanks of the Imperial Library Council are due to all those persons and institutions who so very kindly presented these books.

Of the total additions to the Library, 6,035 were official publications of the Central and Provincial Governments of India and the Governments of certain other countries. Detailed figures will be found in Appendix VIII.

The "List of Additions" was supplied to the English and Vernacular Press, as before, and the Library authorities are grateful to the Associated Press of India and to such of the papers as are giving publicity to the list, for the courtesy shown in this direction.

III. Shelf-list.

Reference was made in the last report to a portion of the Indian official publications collection, which were yet to be shelf-listed. These were taken up during the year under report, as time permitted; and thus about ten thousand volumes were shelf-listed, for which 3,370 cards were prepared. This brings the total of the entire shelf listing done so far, to 152,650 volumes and 74,340 cards. The work is not as yet completed.

A large number of the United States of America official publications had been accumulated before 1929, the sorting of which had been going on during this period, and a few thousand of them were handled as time permitted.

IV. Cataloguing.

The total number of books excepting official publications and those in Oriental and Indian languages catalogued during the year is 1,601, for which 9,193 cards and entries were made. These figures show an increase of 268 and 3,309 respectively, as compared with last year. The total number of works shelf-listed comes to 1,565 and the number of shelf-cards is 1,439. These figures exceed those for the last year by 695 and 601 respectively. There were no arrears in this section at the end of the official year.

Reference was made in the last report to the plans that were under consideration for bringing the printed subject and author catalogues up-to-date. A temporary staff of two clerks and three sorters was sanctioned for eighteen months to undertake this work, which was begun on the 2nd June, 1937; by first taking up the compilation of Subject Index—2nd Supplement which was to cover the period from 1928 to 1937. The subject cards were checked with the Accessions Register to make sure that all additions made to the Library during this period were included in the supplement. There were in all about 17,000 entries to form the second supplement. Fresh cards had to be made for about 1,000 books, and 1,134 cards had to be prepared afresh.

The entries were then checked with the actual stock; after which the cards were re-arranged by subjects, were edited and provided with necessary cross-references, and sent to the press.

The Author catalogue was then taken up. The cards for books which had several editions or copies were separated in order to bring such books together under the same numbers, instead of different call-numbers, as before. 2,361 volumes were examined for this purpose, and the call-numbers of 1,058 books were changed. This change in call-numbers necessitated corrections in the Reading Room Card catalogue and the shelf-list. 613 corrections were made in the Reading Room catalogue and 666 in the shelf-list. The work was still in progress when the year under review closed.

V. Lending Section.

In all 11,888 volumes were lent out as against 11,742 volumes of the previous year, showing an increase of 146 only. Out of this number 1,588 volumes were lent for Government use (910 less), while 10,300 were lent to the public or 1,056 more than last year. Thus, as far as the public is concerned, they are making good use of the Library. The constant decrease in the other category is due to the fact that very few books are now lent out for the use of detenus.

Appendix III will show the comparative figures for the last three years.

Appendix IV shows the number and percentage of books lent out to various provinces, etc., Calcutta's percentage has gone up, for it is 85

as against 76 of last year. Bengal, excluding Calcutta, borrowed 7 books out of every hundred as against 11 of the previous year, while other provinces combined got only about 8 of every hundred.

The number of reminders issued during 1937-38 was reduced to 334 from 364 of the last year.

A sum of Rs. 16,880-12-0 was deposited by borrowers of books and Rs. 15,053-13-6 withdrawn, or the net gain of the year was Rs. 1,826-14-5. The total amount in hand on account of deposits on the 31st March 1938, was Rs. 27,794-15-9.

VI. Reading Rooms.

The Reading Rooms were opened for 355 days during the year as against 353 of the last. This number includes 52 Sundays ; and 27 other gazetted holidays, when the Reading Rooms opened for three hours every day, in the afternoon. *viz.*, from 2 to 5. These were entirely closed for 10 days, as against 12 of the year 1936-37.

The total number of persons who visited the Reading Rooms was 67,534 as against 50,876 of the previous year ; or 6,658 more. The daily average comes to 190 as compared with 143 of the last year. This amply compensates for the deficiency of the previous year. Apart from the publications stocked in the Reading Room for study or reference, requisitions for 38,823 books were made by readers, which were supplied from the Stack Room. This number is less by 2,056 than that of the year 1936-37. The daily average comes to 109 as against 116 of that year. Comparative figures for the three years will be found in Appendix V while detailed figures for the year under review will be found in Appendix VI.

The taste of readers shows a little change after all, and that could not be otherwise, as things could not go on in one and the same way for very long. Although the three first places continue to be occupied by Literature, History and Law, but there seems to have been some understanding among these three, whereby there was an exchange of places between Law and History ; instead of allowing some new aspirant to come in. As regards other places in the scale, there has been a good deal of reshuffling ; Geography and Travel have jumped up to the fourth place from the seventh (not a bad progress) ; whereas Religion which at one time was fairly high in the scale, but has been conceding place to others every year, has gone out of the first ten places altogether. Education has stuck to its sixth place. Engineering, Geology, Chemistry, Fine Arts, and Botany all have made good progress so as to occupy the 5th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th places. In the case of Education, although the place of last year has been retained, the number of books consulted has decreased by about three ~~thousand~~ hundred.

Although there has been a decrease in the total number of books consulted, Literature *inter se* shows an increase of about 50 per cent. Law and History in spite of their occupying high positions in the scale,

show a decrease of about one and four thousand volumes respectively, as compared with the corresponding figures of last year.

Geography and Travel, Engineering, Geology, Chemistry, Fine Arts, and Botany, although all new comers, have justified their entry into higher planes with considerable increase in their respective numbers.

Looking at the scale from the other end, it is found that just as Literature is not willing to concede its position of honour to any other subject, Zoology is similarly not prepared to let any other subject deprive it of the last place in the scale. Sports and Games and Social Reform are the two other among the last three subjects, with this change that Social Reform has exchanged place with Numismatics. A further study of the figures pertaining to the last ten subjects in the scale shows that the total decrease is mainly due to the decrease in the number of books consulted in these subjects. Details of figures according to subjects will be found in Appendix VII.

The total number of three-year admission tickets issued during the year under report is 2,602, or about two hundred less than last year. The number of day-tickets is practically double of what it was last year ; *i.e.*, 11,500. The daily average of both kinds of tickets is 8 and 32 respectively, as against 8 and 18.

The number of Research workers who benefited of the Private Reading Room rose from 23 to 33. Seven of them came from Allahabad ; Dacca ; Delhi ; Lucknow ; London and Paris Universities, while the rest were local people, including those from the Calcutta University.

156 volumes as against 103 of last year were added to the Reference collection in the Reading Room ; and 17 were withdrawn from there. Only one journal was lost from the Reading Room, during this year.

The new arrangements introduced last year with regard to the seating of readers and the exhibition of periodicals continue to be appreciated by all concerned.

VII. Official Section.

In all 6,035 publications were received in this section, during the year under report, of which 1,361 were supplied by the various departments of the Government of India and their subordinate and attached offices ; while 1,416 were received from various Provincial Goverments, either on payment or free of charge. The total figures for Indian official publications, and those for the Central Government and the Provincial Governments, show an increase of 173,83 and 90 volumes, respectively.

Parliamentary publications and blue-books numbered 804 as against 937; while the United States of America publications outnumber the last year's figures by 84, the total being 1,923. The League of Nations supplied 304 or 25 less ; whereas certain foreign countries and a few

dominions and colonies together presented 227 volumes or 12 less. The thanks of the Library Council are due to all these Governments for the interest they have exhibited in this Library by presenting their valuable publications. As in the previous year, no maps were received during this year too, as the Survey Department have stopped their free supply.

Out of the total number of publications received, 1,170 (510 American and 660 non-American) publications were catalogued, whereas the rest being serial publications, entries were made for them in progress slips. In last year's report, mention was made of a large number of United States of America publications which had not been attended to for a long time and that a start had been made in dealing with them. The work of accessioning, cataloguing and entering them in progress slips was continued, and considerable progress was made in this respect during the year under review. 3,155 such publications were accessioned and catalogued, in addition to 1368, already accessioned, but now catalogued and entered in progress slips. In all 4,423 of these old United Staces of America publications were disposed of during this year.

The pasting of correction slips was brought and is being kept up-to-date. Comparative figures for the last three years will be found in Appendix VIII.

VIII. Buhar Library.

One hundred and eighty-nine books were added to this section as against 163 of the previous year. Of this number 58 were in Arabic, 30 in Persian, and 101 in Urdu. Out of the total additions, 130 were purchased, 6 were received from Bengal Library, and 42 were presentations. Another 11 volumes were transferred from the general stack room, bringing the total additions this section to 189.

The number of persons who used this Library was 2,724 as against 2,941 of the previous year. Three hundred and seventy-seven books were lent out of this collection and the number of bibliographical references supplied was 364. There is thus an increase of 168 and 129 respectively. Research workers from Lucknow University and Hyderabad were among those who made use of this collection, during the year under report.

The cataloguing of Urdu books was taken up during this year which was going on at the close of the same. About 1,200 Urdu books were catalogued.

IX. Oriental Section.

Five hundred and fifty-one volumes were added to this section as against 506 during the previous year, for which 2,636 cards and slips were prepared. There is on the whole an increase of 45 volumes over

that of the previous year; despite a decrease of 5 in the number of books purchased, and a fall of 2 in the number of books presented to this section. A statement by languages showing books added is given as Appendix I; and a list of donors of two or more volumes will be found in Appendix II.

Of the total additions, 64 were purchased, as against 69, which include 34 Sanskrit, 22 Hindi, 3 Pali, 3 Bengali, 1 Marathi and 1 in Malayalam; while 399 were received from the Bengal Library, and 88 were presented. The total number of Bengali books added to this section comes to 330, that of Sanskrit 139, of Hindi to 53, and that of other languages to 29, as against 307, 136, 32 and 31 respectively.

Seven hundred and fifty-one cards were added to the new Sanskrit Catalogue which is thus being kept up-to-date. 1,620 Bibliographical references about Oriental works were supplied to enquirers during the year under review, the number exceeding that of the previous year by 28. The monthly list of additions to the Oriental Section was regularly published in the local vernacular press. Over 6,000 slips were made for the Bengali collection completing the catalogue of Bengali books and periodicals published up to the end of the year 1935. The entire collection of slips for authors and titles of books (40,000) has been alphabetically arranged and is ready for the press.

Eight hundred and nine volumes of Bengali fiction works, which had been examined by Messrs. Sen and Mitra of the Calcutta University, were ultimately discarded with the Council's approval and distributed among different departmental and University Libraries. A list of unimportant periodicals has been prepared, the disposal of which will be shortly taken up.

X. Periodicals.

The total number of periodicals, papers and gazettes received at the end of the year was 386. Nine journals were added to the last year's list and five were discontinued, leaving the total at 386.

Those added were (1) Lloyds Bank Monthly Review; (2) Burma Trade Journal; (3) China Forum; (4) Annals of Collective Economy; (5) Journal of the Indian Mathematical Society; (6) Harvard Educational Review; (7) National Institute of Science; (8) National Geographical Journal and (9) Hindusthan Standard, a Daily from Calcutta.

No. 8 is purchased, while the rest are presented to the library. Those discontinued were (1) Revue critique; (2) Eastern Buddhist; (3) Stri-dharma; (4) Indian and Eastern Transport and (5) The Advocate.

A statement showing their frequency is given in Appendix IX.

XI. Weeding.

The 800 Bengali fiction works referred to in the last report having been sanctioned to be discarded, were distributed among certain Secretariat and University Libraries during the course of the year.

A list of duplicate Official publications consisting of 670 items and about 1,700 copies was placed before the Council at their meeting held on the 16th November, 1937, when they agreed to the publications in question being discarded. A printed list of these was consequently circulated among the libraries eligible to receive the spare publications of this Library, and their distribution is in hand, at present. The question of the weeding of unsuitable fiction was referred to in the last report. In that connection, the next batch of such works to be taken up was that of about a thousand volumes of German novels. The Council at their last meeting referred this question to a sub-committee, who have framed their recommendations, as to what is to be discarded and what is to be retained.

XII. Care of Books and Binding.

In all, 3,569 volumes were sent to the Government of India Press for binding, as compared with 2,997 of the previous year or 572 in excess. Comparative figures for three years will be found in Appendix X.

The Press refused to receive any more binding work in the beginning of January 1938; when about 2,000 volumes were still lying with them. This is highly inconvenient, as the Press refuses to receive work at any moment it likes, whereas books have to be used either without binding or rebinding, which tells upon their life.

A substantial portion of the project for the construction of Steel racks was completed during the year under review, at a cost of about Rs. 3,100 sanctioned by the Government of India. The construction of these racks enabled us to rearrange certain portions of the stack, especially that on the ground floor where some of the congestion has been removed.

XIII. Copyright Scheme.

The Council in their meeting of November, 1937, once again urged upon the Government of India the desirability of taking early action in the matter, after listening to the statement made by the Chairman as to the progress made. The Government of India's reply was to the effect that the question could not be taken up as yet.

XIV. Administration.

Library Council. There did not occur any change in the Council's personnel. It met, as usual, once during the year, on the 16th November, 1937, when the necessary business was transacted.

Mr. S. P. Mookerjee was once more elected Vice-Chairman of the Council, for one year, at the aforesaid meeting of the Council.

Librarian. Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah, the Librarian, was on leave from the 25th February, 1937 to 14th April, 1937, when Mr. S. Kumar, the Superintendent of the Reading Rooms, carried out the current duties of the office of Librarian, in addition to his own.

XV. Finance.

Detailed and comparative figures pertaining to this head will be found in Appendix XI. The total receipts from various sources amount to Rs. 1,134-11-0; the reason for the increase is that a sum of Rs. 950 was realised as fees from the students of the Library Training Class held during the year. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 50 was refunded to a student who could not eventually join the class.

The Government grant is higher by about Rs. 2,472 as compared with that of the previous year. The decrease under pay of Establishment is due to the retirement of old incumbents drawing higher rates of pay, and recruitment of new hands on initial pay.

Purchase of books includes an expenditure of about Rs. 750 for printing a further portion of Tarikh-e-Herat, and Rs. 300 spent on the purchase of books required for the use of the students of the Library Training Class.

As there has been a change in the Budget heads from the financial year 1937-38, the grant and expenditure during the years 1935-36 and 1936-37, under the head "Other Expenses", which included provision for Allowance, Honoraria, etc., so long, has been split up into separate heads, *viz.*, "Other Expenses" and "Allowance, Honoraria, etc." to fit in with the figures for 1937-38.

The increase in expenditure under "Other Expenses" is due to the construction of a few steel racks during the year under review, at a cost of about Rs. 3,100.

The increase under "Allowance, Honoraria, etc." is due to the payment of honoraria (Rs. 600) to various members of the staff for conducting the Library Training Class and the Travelling Allowance (Rs. 700).

Purchase of books. The expense under this head during the previous few years exceeded the grant. A bigger amount was kept in reserve this year to meet expenditure on Standing orders for supply of books, but these were not supplied according to expectations.

XVI. Audit of Library Accounts.

The accounts of the Library for the year 1936-37 were audited in February, 1938. A few minor objections were raised in the course of audit, which have been met. The result of the audit showed that the state of work on the whole was satisfactory during the year.

XVII. Office.

The total number of letters received and despatched is 5,625 and 5,220 respectively. The former shows an increase of 1,670, while the latter exceeds that of last year by 558. In addition to this, 447 reminders (54 more) were despatched to recover overdue books. Comparative figures for the last three years are given in Appendix XII.

The total number of cases recorded and indexed during the year 1937-38 comes to 2,648 or 224 more than last year. The work was not up-to-date at the end of the year.

XVIII. Stock-taking.

No stock-taking could be undertaken during the year under review for want of time. The Council adhered to its decision to check the stock a portion at a time, by rotation, and combine it with the checking to be done later, in connection with the compiling of the author catalogue.

XIX. Library Training Class.

As decided by the Imperial Library Council in their meeting held on the 30th November, 1936, the Second Library Training Class was started with 20 students, as usual, including two of the employees of the Library, from the 17th May, 1937. The lectures and practical work were over by the end of October, 1937. The examination was held from the 4th to the 11th November, 1937, and the result was declared on the 24th January, 1938.

Only eighteen students appeared at the examination. All were successful, out of which 3 passed the examination with distinction.

The class consisted of 15 Hindus and 5 Muslims, of whom ten came from Bengal, one from Bihar, four from United Provinces, three from Indian States and two belonged to the Imperial Library.

Eleven of these were already working in different libraries; two were working in educational institutions, while two others were working in the Imperial Library and the remaining five were either unemployed or working in some other capacities.

Enquiries as to the opening of the next class are still coming in.

2. The names of successful candidates are given below, in order of merit:—

1. Paresh Nath Paul, B. Sc.	Bengal.
2. Ajit K. Mookerjee, M. A.	Bengal.
3. Moti Chandra Varma, M.A.	U. P.
4. Sarbanisahay Sen, B.A.	Bengal.
5. Kantindu Bhusan Raychoudhury, B.A.	Bengal.
6. Sunil Krishna Bagchi, B.A.	Bengal.
7. Indradeo Narayan Sinha	Bihar.
8. Sudhindranath Chakravarti, M.A.	Bengal.
9. Keshaw Dutta Sharma, B.A.	U. P.
10. Syed Ismail Qadri, M.A.	Hydrabad (Dn.)
11. Himatlal Kalidas Vyas	Baroda.
12. M. I. A. Khan Warisi, M.A., LL.B.	Junagadh.
13. Kalidhan Mookerjee, B.A.	Bengal.
14. Syed Sajjad Hussain Rizvi	U. P.
15. Benoy Krishna Banerjee, M.A.	Bengal.
16. Alauddin Ahmad, B.A.	Bengal.
17. Dwijesh Chandra Roy, M.A.	Bengal.
18. Ram Lakshman Giri	Bengal.

APPENDIX I.

Linguisitic Analysis or books added to the literary.

Language.	Year. 1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
1. Arabic	33	36	58
2. Assamese	1	3	4
3. Bengali	304	307	330
4. Canarese	..	1	..
5. Danish	10	3	5
6. Dutch	15	17	14
7. English	1,581	1,455	1,798
8. Finish	3	4	7
9. French	32	40	35
10. German	41	32	52
11. Gondi	..	1	..
12. Greek	10	7	..
13. Gujrati	..	6	5
14. Halbi	..	..	1
15. Hindi	36	32	53
16. Italian	8	3	50
17. Javanese	..	1	1
18. Latin	7	7	17
19. Malayalam	2	1	3
20. Marathi	1	3	2
21. Nepali	..	..	2
22. Pali	2	13	8
23. Persian	25	49	30
24. Punjabi	1	..	..
25. Russian	..	4	4
26. Sanskrit	129	136	139
27. Santali	1	..	..
28. Spanish	14	70	10
29. Swedish	3	5	2
30. Tamil	..	1	2
31. Telugu	..	1	1
32. Tibetan	..	1	..
33. Urdu	99	78	101
Total	2,360	3,017	2,734

APPENDIX II.

List of Donors of Books.

Donors.	No. of Vols.
1. Academia de la historia de Cuba, Habana	2
2. Al-Hilal Office, Cairo	8
3. Armaghan Press, Teheran	2
4. Asadullah, Khan Bahadur K. M., Calcutta	2
5. Azizul Haque, Hon'ble Khan Bahadur M., Calcutta	2
6. Banerjee, Mr. A. C., Calcutta	11
7. Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona	3
8. Bharat Dharma Mahamandal, Calcutta	2
9. Biblioteca del Congress do la Union, Mexico	3
10. Biblioteca Nacional, Bogota-Columbia	40
11. Bihar and Orissa Research Society, Patna	2
12. Board of Economic Enquiry, The Punjab	6
13. Brahmachari, Mr. M., Faridpur	4
14. British Academy (through O. U. P.)	3
15. British Museum, London	4
16. Bureau of Information on Nickel, London	2
17. Calcutta University, Calcutta	15
18. Chase National Bank, Chairman of, New York	2
19. Chatterjee, Mr. J. M., Calcutta	2
20. Chatterjee, Mr. N. N., Calcutta	3
21. (Miss) Clare Benedict Credit Society, Switzerland	2
22. Commercial Association, Amritsar	2
23. Consul for Czechoslovakia, Calcutta	2
24. Curator, Osmania University Translation Bureau, Hyderabad Deccan	16
25. Currency Office, Calcutta	21
26. Das, Mr. M., Calcutta	2
27. De Mello, Dr. F., Director of Medical Services, Nova Goa	5
28. Department of Health and Lands, Government of India, New Delhi	10
29. Deutsche Verlags, Berlin	15
30. Dewan, Ratlam State, Ratlam	2
31. Director, Oriental Institute, Baroda	2
32. Druck Und Verlag, Mitterwald	8
33. D. Van Keerberghen and Fils, Bruxelles	25
34. Escola Medico, The Principal, Nova Goa	3
35. Framji, Mr. F., Poona	3
36. Geological Survey, U. S. A.	6
37. Gibb Memorial, The, Cambridge	3
38. Godoy, M. Armand, Paris	3
39. High Commissioner for India, The, London	2
40. Hobbs, Mr. H., Calcutta	2
41. Indian Tea Association, Calcutta	21
42. Japanese Consul General, Calcutta	2
43. Japanese Foreign Trade Federation, Tokyo	2

APPENDIX II—*contd.*

List of Donors of Books—contd.

Donors.	No. of Vols.
44. Jodhpur State, Jodhpur	2
45. Konigelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab, Kobenhovn	14
46. Koninklijk Bataviasch, Batavia	4
47. Lloyds Bank, Ltd., Calcutta	2
48. Malabari, Mr. P. B., Bombay	41
49. Mathematics Students' Quarterly Journal, Editor of Madras	2
50. Mitra, Mr. S. C., Calcutta	10
51. Mitra, Mr. S. C., Calcutta University, Calcutta	5
52. Mukherjee, Mr. C. N., Uttarpara	3
53. Oxford University Press, Calcutta	3
54. Parsee Panchayet Fund, Bombay	6
55. Pederson, Mr. K. J., Kobenhovn	3
56. Rahaman, Mr. S. K., Calcutta	2
57. Registrar, Andhra University, Andhra	2
58. Registrar, Bombay University, Bombay	5
59. Registrar, Dacca University, Dacca	3
60. Registrar, Harvard University, Harvard	3
61. Registrar, London University, London	2
62. Registrar, Madras University, Madras	6
63. Registrar, Manchester University, Manchester	11
64. Registrar, Mcgill University, Mcgill	3
65. Mysore University, Mysore	3
66. Registrar, Queensland University, Queensland	2
67. Roy, Mr. D. N., Calcutta	2
68. Roy, Mr. S., Calcutta	4
69. Sadananda Mr., Calcutta	2
70. Sarkar, Mr. B. K., Calcutta	2
71. School of Librarianship, London	2
72. Secretary, Anjuman-i-Ahmadiyya, Calcutta	4
73. Secretary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta	2
74. Secretary, Bengal Sikh Mission Association, Calcutta	4
75. Secretary, Boy Scout Association, Calcutta	3
76. Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay	9
77. Secretary, Institute of Scientific Research, Manchukuo	12
78. Secretary, School, Nova Goa	2
79. Shivananda Svami, Rishikesh	16
80. Societas Scientiarum Fennica, Helsingfors	15
81. Superintendent, Government Press, U. P.	6
82. Superintendent of Archaeology, Eastern Circle, Calcutta	3
83. Test House, Alipore, Calcutta	134
84. Times, The, London	2
85. Union International de Chimie, Paris	2
86. Uppsala University, Uppsala (Sweden)	2
87. Vidyabhusan, Mr. A. C., Calcutta	9
88. Wisconsin University, Wisconsin (U. S. A.)	2
Total	651
Other Donors who presented one volume each	133
Total	784

APPENDIX III.

Lending Department.

Borrowers.	Years.		
	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
Volumes lent to Government Officers . . .	3,901	2,498	1,588
Volumes lent to Public	9,473	9,244	10,300
Total .	13,374	11,742	11,888

APPENDIX IV.

Statement of books lent according to Provinces.

Provinces.	1935-36.		1936-37.		1937-38.	
	No. of vols.	Percentage.	No. of vols.	Percentage.	No. of vols.	Percentage.
Assam	39	·291	22	·187	..	..
Bengal (*excluding* Calcutta) .	2,142	16·016	1,320	11·241	886	7·452
Bihar	35	·261	25	·212	15	·126
Bombay	102	·762	111	·945	70	·593
Burma	..	..	..	..	2	·016
Central India	923	6·901	852	7·256	482	4·054
Central Provinces . . .	108	·807	59	·502	35	·297
Madras	142	1·061	129	1·098	59	·413
N.-W. F. Provinces . . .	21	·157	..	..	9	·075
Orissa	Included in Bihar above				2	·016
Punjab	101	·755	88	.749	62	·521
Sind	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Provinces . . .	191	1·428	156	1·328	141	1·191
Goa	..	..	..	..	11	·97
Total .	3,804	28·444	2,763	23·526	1,774	14·851
Calcutta	9,570	71·556	8,979	76·468	10,114	85·077
Grand Total .	13,374	100	11,742	100	11,888	100

APPENDIX V.

Reading Room Statistics.

	Years.		
	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
Number of visitors	54,215	50,876	67,534
Number of books requisitioned from the stack-room	29,063	40,879	38,823

APPENDIX VI.

Detailed figures showing the number of Readers ; and books requisitioned from the stack-room, during 1937-38.

	Ordinary days.			Sundays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Holidays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Days on which the Reading Rooms were closed.
	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	
Total	276	60,095	35,690	52	4,650	2,002	27	2,789	1,131	10
Daily average	..	218	129	..	89	39	..	103	42	..

APPENDIX VII.

Analytical statement by subjects of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.

Subjects.	1935-36. Vols.	1936-37. Vols.	1937-38. Vols.
Administration—			
Official Publications	123	237	90
Non-Official Publications	541	810	399
Agriculture including Manufactures	581	890	434
Archaeology	540	972	495
Astronomy	611	1,032	529
Bibliography	544	704	599
Biography	1,075	1,464	774
Biology	533	807	828
Botany	554	730	920
Chemistry	598	840	933
Education	685	1,381	1,031
Engineering, etc.	731	995	1,186
Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	596	729	851
Fine Arts, etc.	552	685	928
Folklore, Mythology, etc.	545	702	759
Geography and Travels	737	1,179	1,223
Geology	634	933	1,020
History	1,446	1,760	1,313
Law	1,296	1,750	1,644
Literature	8,213	10,989	15,370
Mathematics	486	984	917
Medicine	540	834	679
Numismatics	353	414	357
Newspapers	494	671	367
Magazines	851	1,004	711
Philology	561	925	539
Philosophy	875	1,095	720
Physics	557	791	514
Political Economy	982	917	761
Religion	777	1,135	668
Science (General)	530	1,474	654
Social Reform, etc.	464	472	317
Sports Games, etc.	287	419	199
Zoology	171	163	94
Total	29,063	40,879	38,823

APPENDIX VIII.

Official Section.

	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
A.—Number of publications, received from various departments of the Government of India and from Provincial Governments, either by purchase, or free of charge.			
1. Govt. of India, etc.	1,123	1,278	1,361
2. Assam	74	79	68
3. Bengal	173	123	200
4. Bihar and Orissa	96	107	147
5. Bombay	229	220	169
6. Burma	136	176	222
7. Central Provinces	182	184	161
8. Madras	114	44	84
9. North-West Frontier Province	69	65	57
10. Punjab	177	163	151
11. United Provinces	114	105	101
12. Indian States	49	60	56
Total	2,536	2,604	2,777
B.—Other publications.			
1. Parliamentary publications and blue books	847	937	804
2. U. S. A. Government documents	1,323	1,839	1,923
3. League of Nations	336	329	304
Total	2,506	3,105	3,031

APPENDIX VIII —*contd.*

Official Section—contd.

C.—Miscellaneous.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
1. Australia			
2. Canada			
3. Ceylon			
4. China			
5. Italy			
6. Malay	227	239	227
7. New Zealand			
8. Philippines			
9. South Africa			
10. West Indies			
Grand Total	5,269	5,948	6,035

NOTE.—In 1937-38, 660 non-American Official publications, and 510 new American publications were catalogued. Old American publications 3,155 in number were accessioned and 4,423 in all (including 1,268 already accessioned) were disposed of by cataloguing and entering in progress slips during the year.

APPENDIX IX.

Periodicals received in the Library, 1937-38.

——	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
Weekly and Fortnightly	34	34	35
Monthly	145	145	146
Bi-monthly	6	6	6
Quarterly	80	81	83
Others	71	80	80
Newspapers	19	22	22
Gazettes	12	14	14
Total	367	382	386

APPENDIX X.

Report of the Binding Section for 1937-38.

Years.	Books and Periodicals.	Newspapers and Gazettes.	Total.
1935-36	2,847	122	2,969
1936-37	2,898	99	2,997
1937-38	3,478	91	3,569

APPENDIX XI.

Finance.

I.—Receipts.

——	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Sale of Duplicate Tickets . . .	49 0 0	44 0 0	40 0 0
2. Sale of Catalogues	67 0 3	45 12 0	31 4 0
3. Deposits forfeited	9 0 0	10 0 0	9 0 0
4. Miscellaneous Receipts . . .	12 2 0	27 15 6	22 4 0
5. Interest from fixed Deposit . .	440 0 0 (*a*)	..	..
6. Fines realised from borrowers of books	79 12 0	88 7 0	82 3 0
7. Fees realised from students of the Library Training Class.	950 0 0	..	950 0 0
Total .	1,606 14 3	216 2 6	1,134 11 0

(*a*) Not credited to Government Account, *vide* Item 5 under expenditure.

APPENDIX XI—*contd.*

Finance—contd.

II.—Grant (Final figures).

	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay of Officer	12,600	13,233	13,752
2. Pay of Establishment	31,100	31,200	28,300
3. Purchase of Books	9,800	10,000	10,550
4. Other Expenses	2,527	3,117	6,120
5. Allowance, Honorarium, etc.	1,023	583	1,883
Total	57,050	58,133	60,605
Deduct—Amount recovered from Bengal Government.	16,000	16,600	16,600

III.—Expenditure.

	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay of Officer	12,580	13,232	13,752
2. Pay of Establishment	31,452	31,182	28,298
3. Purchase of Books, etc.	9,972	10,542	8,952
4. Other Expenses	2,537	3,052	5,984
5. Allowance, Honorarium, etc.	1,023	583	1,883
Total Expenditure from Budget Grant	57,564(*a*)	58,591	58,869
6. Establishment engaged out of interest from fixed Deposit.	472-2(*b*)	..	..

(*a*) Rs. 16,600 of the expenditure paid out of the contribution received from Bengal Government.

(*b*) A sum of Rs. 32-2 was paid out of the interest money of previous year.

APPENDIX XII.

Statement showing the number of letters received and issued from the Imperial Library, Calcutta.

	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
Receipts	5,856	3,965	5,625
Issues	4,527	4,862	5,220
Remindors for return of books lent . .	587	393	447

MGIPC—S5—III-3-23—20-1-39—500.

JUN 8 1940

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1938-39.

PRINTED BY MANAGER, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, CALCUTTA
1940

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1938-39.

I. Period.

The report covers the period from 1st April, 1938 to 31st March 1939.

II. Accessions.

The total number of all kinds of publications added to the Library during the year 1938-39 comes to 10,070 as compared with 8,768 of the previous year, or 1,302 in excess. A linguistic analysis of the accessions excluding official and certain other publications will be found in Appendix I. Out of the total additions, 3,462 volumes were presented to the Library during the year, of which 3,330 were in European languages (including 2,765 volumes of old newspapers presented by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce) and 132 in Indian and other Oriental languages. This number is exclusive of the books received from the Bengal Library, of which the total comes to 468. The number of books presented to the Library is in excess by 2,515, as compared with that of the previous year. The reason for this large increase is the receipt of 2,765 volumes of old newspapers from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. The names of donors of more than one volume are given in Appendix II, and the thanks of the Imperial Library Council are due to all those persons, and institutions who so very kindly presented these publications.

Of the total number of accessions, 7,090 were official publications of the Central and Provincial Governments of India, and of certain foreign countries. Detailed figures will be found in Appendix VIII.

The "List of Additions" was supplied to the English and Vernacular Press, as before, and the Library authorities are grateful to the Associated Press of India and to such of the papers as are giving publicity to the list, for the courtesy shown in this direction.

III. Shelf-list.

The shelf-listing work was resumed in the beginning of the year and it was possible to shelf-list another 15,434 volumes during the period April to September 1938 (6 months) for which 6,107 cards were made. With the shelf-listing of these volumes, the whole collection of Indian official publications has been shelf-listed, leaving American and other foreign or colonial official publications to be dealt with similarly. If to the said volumes may be added the figures for the work done up to the

end of March 1938, the total for the shelf-listing done up to 30th September 1938 comes to 168,084 volumes and 80,447 cards.

Reference was made last year to the large number of U. S. A. publications that had been allowed to accumulate previous to 1929, and which were being dealt with as time permitted. Another lot of about 2,800 volumes was disposed off during the year under review, but there are still some thousands of these publications to be handled and unless these are first dealt with in this manner, the shelf-listing of American official publications cannot be taken up.

IV. Cataloguing.

(a) Current.

The total number of books excepting official publications and those in Indian and certain oriental languages catalogued during the year is 1,244, for which 7,276 cards and entries were made. These figures show a decrease of 357 and 1,917 respectively, as compared with last year; which fact is due to a lesser number of books having been purchased during the year under report. The total number of volumes shelf-listed comes to 1,281 and the number of shelf-cards is 1,046. These figures show a decrease of 284 and 393 respectively, as compared with last year. There were no arrears in this section at the end of the official year.

(b) New Catalogues.

Subject Catalogue (2nd Supplement). The Manuscript copy of this catalogue was sent to the press for printing in the beginning of 1938, and the first and second proofs were returned to the press, after corrections during the year under report. The supplement is expected to be out of the press, before the end of this year.

Author Catalogue. A reference was made in the last report that the work on this catalogue had been started. During the year under report, about 3,000 volumes were examined with the object of bringing together their various editions and the several copies of the same book, as a consequence of which call-numbers of about 2,000 volumes had to be changed. The corresponding changes in the Reading Room Catalogue and the Shelf-list were also made, which numbered about 1,800 and 1,600 respectively.

The total number of entries comprising the catalogue comes to 80,650. These were not found for a number of books, and as such 6,130 cards had to be written afresh. The entries were arranged according to call-numbers and checked with the stock.

After that, these were re-arranged alphabetically to enable a comparison of the newly compiled catalogue with the existing card catalogue in the Reading Room being practicable. This is proving a tremendous

task, as discrepancies have to be looked into. The work was still going on when the year under review closed. The temporary staff sanctioned for the compilation of the catalogue was discharged at the end of February 1938. At present the work of comparing the two catalogues is being done by two hands of the regular staff of the library.

V. Lending Section.

In all 11,109 volumes were lent out as against 11,888 of the previous year, showing a decrease of 779 volumes. Out of this number, 782 volumes were lent out for official use (806 less), while 10,327 were lent to the public or 27 more than last year. Thus, as far as the public is concerned, they continue to make good use of the Library. The constant decrease in the other category is mostly due to the fact that no books are issued now for the use of detenus.

Appendix III will show the comparative figures for the last three years.

Appendix IV shows the number and percentage of books lent out to various provinces, etc. Calcutta's percentage has gone up still further, for it is 93 as against 85 of last year. Bengal excluding Calcutta, borrowed only 2 books out of every hundred as against 7 of the previous year, while other provinces combined got only about 5 out of every hundred.

The number of reminders issued during 1938-39 increased to 419 from 334 of last year.

A sum of Rs. 18,379-12-0 was deposited by borrowers of books and Rs. 18,324-10-0 were withdrawn, or the net gain for the year was Rs. 55-2-0 only. The total amount in hand on account of deposits, on the 31st March 1939, was Rs. 27,641-1-9.

VI. Reading Rooms.

The Reading Rooms were opened for 352 days during the year as against 355 of the previous year. This number includes 49 Sundays and 34 other gazetted holidays, when the Reading Rooms were opened from 2 to 5 P. M. The Reading Rooms were entirely closed for 13 days as against 10 of the preceding year.

The total number of persons visiting the Reading Rooms was 72,416 as against 67,534 of the previous year, *i. e.*, 4,882 more. The daily average comes to 206 as against 190 of the last year. Apart from the publications stooked in the Reading Rooms, for reference, requisitions for 41,792 books were made by readers, which were supplied from the Stack Room. There is an increase of 2,969 over the number of the previous year. The daily average comes to 119 as against 109. Comparative figures for the last three years will be found in Appendix V,

while detailed information for the year under report will be available from Appendix VI.

The statement of books consulted by readers according to subjects (Appendix VII) is a good index of the taste of the reading public. Literature, as usual occupies the first place, although the total number of books consulted has gone down by about one-third. The unique position occupied by Literature year after year, shows that Literature still has a grasp over the reading public. Next comes History, which after a temporary depression, in 1937-38, has again asserted its supremacy over Law. Under the present national consciousness of the country, it is not perhaps unnatural that History should be preferred to all other subjects. The vicinity of the highest law-court and the abundance of law-students are perhaps responsible for the high position that Law has occupied for some time. The next position of importance, *i. e.*, 4th has been occupied by Engineering, which has gained that place at the expense of Geography and Travels, by pushing them down to the sixth place. Periodicals have come to occupy the 5th place, although they did not figure among the first ten in the order of popularity for some time past. This is due to the fact that Newspapers and Magazines which were shown separately in previous years, have been put together as "Periodicals". Geology has stuck to its seventh place. Education has come two steps down thus occupying the 8th place, although the total number of books consulted in that subject has increased by about two hundred. Biography is a new comer among the first ten while Medicine is the 10th. The number of books consulted in each subject has however increased greatly, the important being History, where an increase of 50 per cent. is noticeable, while the number of medical books has practically doubled. Studying the figures from the other end, it is found that although Zoology has shown a little improvement as far as numbers are concerned, it has not been enough to enable it to concede its last place to any other subject. Sports and Games and Social Reform continue to occupy the second and third places from the bottom, with Science to share the place with Social Reform. Others among the last ten are Physics; Numismatics; Administration; Agriculture; and Archæology. In all these cases the number of books consulted has increased and even become double in certain cases; but it does not exceed eight hundred except in one case. Such abstract studies as Philosophy and Economics almost run side by side with such popular scientific subjects as Chemistry and Astronomy. But what is rather curious to note is the very inferior position occupied by one of the foremost scientific subjects, namely Physics. Its position in the scale is only last but four.

The total number of three-year admission tickets issued during the year under report is 3,065 or 463 more than last year; and the number of day tickets is 5,549 as against 11,500 of the previous year. The daily average of both kinds of tickets is 9 and 16 respectively, as against 8 and 32.

The number of Research Workers who took advantage of the facilities of the Private Reading Room is 27 as against 33. Seven of them came from Bombay, Lucknow, Lahore, Madras, Delhi and Dhanbad, while the rest were local persons.

Seventy-five volumes as against 156 of last year were added to the Reference Collection in the Reading Room, and 36 were withdrawn from there.

VII. Official Section.

In all 7,090 publications were received in this section, during the year under report, of which 1,341 were supplied by the various departments of the Government of India and their subordinate and attached offices; while 2,275 were received from various Provincial Governments, and Indian States, either on payment or free of charge. The total figures for official publications show an increase of 1,055, while those for the Central Government and the Provincial Governments show a decrease of 20 and an increase of 845 volumes, respectfully.

Parliamentary publications and blue-books numbered 944 as against 804; while the United States of America publications outnumber the last year's figures by 88, their total being 2,011. The League of Nations supplied 285 or 19 less; whereas certain foreign countries and a few dominions and colonies together presented 234 volumes or 7 more. The thanks of the Library Council are due to all these Governments for the interest they have exhibited in this Library by presenting their valuable publications. No maps were added to the collection during this year.

Out of the total number of publications received, 836 American and 1,150 other publications were catalogued, whereas the rest being serial publications were dealt with by entering them in progress-slips. 2,214 old American publications were accessioned and 3,535 (including 1,321 already accessioned) were disposed of by cataloguing and entering in progress-slips, during the year. This brings the total to about 8,058.

The pasting of correction slips is being kept up-to-date.

Comparative figures for the last three years will be found in Appendix VIII.

VIII. Buhar Library.

Two hundred and fifty-one books were added to this section (including 57 transferred from general stack-room), as against 189 of the previous year, or only five more, excluding the transferred ones. The said 57 volumes consisted of 48 Mss. and only nine printed works. Of the actual additions, 69 were in Arabic, 48 in Persian and 77 in Urdu. Out of this number, 159 only were purchased: 5 were received from the Bengal Library; and 30 were presentations. The number of persons who used this Library was 1,898 as against

2,724 of the previous year. Four hundred and thirty-seven books were lent out of this collection or 67 more than last year. The number of bibliographical references supplied was 235.

Research workers from Hyderabad-Deccan ; Dar-ul-Musannifin, Azamgarh were among those who made use of this collection during the year under report. The cataloguing of Urdu books was completed this year.

IX. Oriental Section.

Four hundred and eighty-two volumes were added to this section as against 551 during the previous year, for which 3,208 cards and slips were prepared. There is on the whole a decrease of 69 volumes as compared with that of the previous year. There has been a fall of 12 in the number of volumes purchased, but an increase of 14 in the number of volumes presented to this section. A statement by languages showing books added is given in Appendix I : and a list of donors of two or more volumes will be found in Appendix II.

Of the total additions, 52 were purchased, as against 64 ; which number includes 25 Sanskrit, 22 Hindi, 2 Pali, 2 Bengali and 1 Prakrit works ; while 300 were received from the Bengal Library ; 102 were presented and 28 were transferred from the general Stack-Room. The total number of Bengali books added to this section comes to 288, that of Sanskrit to 101, of Hindi to 60, and that of other languages to 33, as against 330,139,53 and 29 respectively.

1,660 cards were prepared and added to the catalogues of different oriental languages kept in the Reading Room. 5,452 entries were copied on cards, for preparing a new Author Catalogue of books in Bengali language. 1,548 slips were prepared and added to the Sanskrit and Bengali Catalogues which are being compiled for printing. 753 Bibliographical references about oriental works were supplied to enquirers during the year under review, as against 1,620 of the previous year. The decrease in number of references is due to the fact that the catalogues of the different oriental languages in the Reading Room have been brought up-to-date now. The monthly list of additions to the Oriental Section was regularly published in the local vernacular press.

The Author Catalogue of the Bengali collection has been brought down to 1,937 and its title index has been completed. The entries pertaining to letter "A" have been sent to the Press, of which the first proof is being received in parts.

X. Periodicals.

The total number of papers, periodicals and gazettes received at the end of the year was 390. Seven journals (six monthlies and one

quarterly) were added to the last year's list; two by purchase and five by gift. Three (2 weeklies and one monthly) which were being presented to the library ceased to be received.

Those added were :—

1. New Indian Antiquary. (Purchased.)
2. China at War.
3. Federated India.
4. Genuine Islam.
5. Rural India.
6. Asia. (Purchased.)
7. Phillips Transmitting news.

Those discontinued were :—

1. China Forum.
2. Commercial Gazette.
3. Journal of Motion Pictures.

A statement showing the frequency of periodicals received, is given as Appendix IX.

XI. Care of Books and Binding.

Only 844 volumes were sent this year to the Government of India Press for binding, as compared with 3,569 of the previous year. Comparative figures for three years will be found in Appendix X. The reason for having only a very small number of publications bound is that the Press shortly after the beginning of the year refused to receive any binding work as they were over-worked and were not in a position to receive any more, unless the work lying with them was completed. In the beginning of January 1939, the press was in a position to receive some work from the library, but that on the condition that not more than 100 volumes were sent during any week. By January, however, all the volumes sent to the press for binding had been received back bound.

The need for more shelf-space is being keenly felt, and especially so in the case of old newspapers accommodated on the ground floor.

XII. Copyright Scheme.

The position with regard to this scheme remains unchanged.

XIII. Administration.

Library Council. The term of office of the last Library Council terminated on the 31st July 1938. The Government of India, in their letter No. F. 48-9/38-E., dated the 23rd July 1938, intimated the

reconstitution of the Library Council with effect from the 1st August of that year, as shown below:

1. Educational Commissioner with the Government of India.	*Ex-Officio* Chairman.
Members.	
2. Khan Bahadur Fakhruddin Ahmad, M.A.	Representatives of the Government of Bengal.
3. Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar, M.A., Ph.D.	
4. Dr. Syamaprasad Mookerjee, M.A., B.L., M.L.A., Bar-at-Law.	Representatives of the University of Calcutta.
5. Dr. Muhammad Zubair Siddiqui, M.A., B.L., Ph.D. (Cantab.).	
6. Dr. Wali Muhammad, M.A., Ph.D.	Nominated by the Governor-General in Council to represent interests outside Calcutta.
7. Dr. Sachidananda Sinha, M.L.A., Bar-at-Law.	
8. Mr. E. C. Dickinson, M.A., I.E.S.	

Mr. J. E. Parkinson, on relinquishing charge of the post of Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, also vacated the office of Chairman, Imperial Library Council, when Mr. John Sargent, assumed that office from 4th November 1938.

The Council met, as usual, once during the year, on the 26th October 1938, when necessary business was transacted.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee was elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for one year, at the aforesaid meeting of the Council.

Librarian.—Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah, the Librarian, was on leave from the 18th December 1938 to 17th March 1939, when Mr. S. Kumar, the Superintendent of the Reading Rooms carried out the current duties of the office of Librarian, in addition to his own.

XIV. Finance.

Detailed and comparative figures pertaining to this head will be found in Appendix XI. The total receipts from miscellaneous sources amount to Rs. 1,895-6-0; the reason for the increase is that the rate of fee for the Library Training Class was raised from Rs. 50 to Rs. 75, and a sum of Rs. 1,500 was realised from the students, during the year under review, on this account. The rest of the amount is derived from sources like, sale of duplicate tickets; sale of catalogues; and fines realised for late-return of Library books by borrowers, etc.

The Government grant is less by about Rs. 7,452 as compared with that of the previous year. The decrease under pay of Establishment is due to the retirement of old incumbents drawing higher rates of pay and recruitment of new hands on initial pay. Ten per cent. of

the grant under heads "Allowance, Honoraria, etc." and "Contingencies" amounting to Rs. 1,220 was resumed by the Government, as a measure of economy.

The figures for purchase of books which include an expenditure of Rs. 500 for printing another portion of Tarikh-e-Herat, are in excess of the sanctioned grant by Rs. 2,072. This is due to the supply of a large number of books from standing orders, or from previous indents.

XV. Audit of Library Accounts.

No auditing of accounts took place during 1938-39.

XVI. Office.

The total number of letters received and despatched is 4,692 and 4,688, respectively. The figures show a decrease of 933 and 532. respectively, as compared with the last year's figures. In addition to this, 414 reminders (thirty-three less) were despatched to recover overdue books. Comparative figures for the last three years are given in Appendix XII.

The total number of cases recorded and indexed during the year under review comes to 509. The work was not up-to-date at the end of the year.

XVII. Stock-Taking.

The checking of the portion of the stock consisting of books in European languages was combined according to the decision of the Library Council with the checking that was to be done in connection with the compilation of a new edition of the Author catalogue. This continued till about the end of the year under report, and the discrepancies discovered were being looked into at the time. The result will be reported to the Council, in due course of time.

XVIII. Library Training Class.

The Imperial Library Council in their meeting held on the 26th October 1938 considered and approved of the revised scheme for imparting training in Librarianship. The important changes were that the examination should be conducted in collaboration with suitable and qualified persons not connected with the teaching work of the class. The fee was raised from Rs. 50 to Rs 75 for the whole session, and a sum of Rs. 1,500 realised as such during 1938-39 was credited to the Government account, as "Miscellaneous Receipts", as shown in Appendix XI. The third Library Training Class was to be started from the 1st April 1939.

APPENDIX I.

Linguistic Analysis of books added to the library.

Language.	Year. 1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
1. Arabic	36	58	60
2. Assamese	3	4	4
3. Bengali	307	330	288
4. Burmese	..	..	3
5. Canarese	1	..	..
6. Danish	3	5	12
7. Dutch	17	14	2
8. English	1,455	1,798	1,349
9. Finnish	4	7	5
10. French	40	35	33
11. German	32	52	46
12. Gondi	1	..	..
13. Greek	7	..	..
14. Gujrati	6	5	5
15. Halbi	..	1	..
16. Hindi	32	53	60
17. Italian	3	50	6
18. Javanese	1	1	..
19. Latin	7	17	..
20. Malayalam	1	3	..
21. Marathi	3	2	1
22. Nepali	..	2	..
23. Pahlavi	..	..	1
24. Pali	13	8	6
25. Persian	49	30	50
26. Prakrit	..	..	2
27. Punjabi	..	..	1
28. Russian	4	4	..
29. Sanskrit	136	139	101
30. Spanish	70	10	26
31. Swedish	5	2	1
32. Tamil	1	2	1
33. Telugu	1	1	..
34. Tibetan	1	—	9
35. Urdu	78	101	84
Total	3,017	2,734	2,156

APPENDIX II.

List of Donors of Books.

Donors.	No. of Vols.
1. Academía de la historia de Cuba, Habana	5
2. Asiatic Society of Japan	3
3. Banerjee, Mr. G. C., Allahabad	3
4. Basak, Mr. J. C., Calcutta	2
5. Biblioteca Del Poder Legislativo Montevidio	12
6. Bose, Mr. S. B., Calcutta	4
7. British Museum, London	6
8. British Rubber Publicity Association, London	4
9. Bureau of Information on Nickel, London	2
10. Calcutta University, Calcutta	17
11. Chaturvedi, Mr. B. D., Calcutta	2
12. China Information Committee, Hankow	4
13. Commerce Department, Government of India, New Delhi	47
14. Consul for Czechoslovakia, Calcutta	4
15. Consul De Peru, Calcutta	3
16. Curator, the Oriental Library, Mysore	3
17. Direccion de Ensenanza Primaria, Montevidio	2
18. Director of Public Instruction, Bengal	2
19. Director of Public Instruction, Bombay	4
20. District Magistrate, Mymensingh.	4
21. Dupays, Mr. Paul, London	2
22. Education, Health and Lands, Department of, Government of India, New Delhi	32
23. Educational Policies Commission, Washington	2
24. Geological Survey of India, Calcutta	13
25. Ghosh, Mr. A. C., Calcutta	2
26. Ghosh, Mr. B. K., Calcutta	6
27. Haldar, Mr. S., Ranchi	2
28. Hasanat, Mr. A., Mymensingh	2
29. Herbert, Mr. J., Paris	3
30. Indian Tea Association, Calcutta.	4
31. International Labour Office, New Delhi and Geneva	7
32. Islam, Mr. K., Kanchrapara	2
33. Japanese Foreign Trade Federation, Tokyo	2
34. Jarullah, Mr. S. M., Calcutta	2
35. Jetli, Mr. I., Bhera	2
36. Kamal, Prince Yusuf, Cairo	2
37. Konigelige Danske Videnskabernes Selskab, Kopenhavn	27
38. Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai, Tokyo	23
39. Koninklijk Bataviasch, Batavia	4
40. Legrady, Dr. Orthon de, Budapest	3
41. Lister, Mr. H. B.	5
42. London Directory Co., London	2
43. Mahiuddin, Mr., Calcutta	2
44. Mitra, Mr. S. C., Calcutta	8
45. Mond Nickel Co., London	6
46. Mukhopadhyaya, Mr. N. N.	2

APPENDIX II—*contd.*

List of Donors of Books—contd.

Donors.	No. of Vols.
47. Municipal Information Office, Budapest	2
48. Museum Fur Naturkunde, Madgeburg	7
49. Parsi Panchayat Funds and Property, Bombay	12
50. Pramanik, Mr. B., Nadia	7
51. Registrar, Agra University, Agra	2
52. Registrar, Allahabad University, Allahabad	7
53. Registrar, Andhra University, Waltair	2
54. Registrar, Benares Hindu University, Benares	2
55. Registrar, Dacca University, Dacca	4
56. Registrar, Delhi University, Delhi	5
57. Registrar, John Hopkins University, Baltimore	2
58. Registrar, Madras University, Madras	7
59. Registrar, Patna University, Patna	6
60. Registrar, Rangoon University, Rangoon	3
61 Registrar, Manchester University, Manchester	14
62. Registrar, Universitas Imperialis in Kioto, Japan	2
63. Ripuis, Dr. W. J., New York	2
64. Sadananda, Mr., Calcutta	2
65. Sadiq, Mr. M., Calcutta	3
66. Santinatha, Sadhu, Amalner	4
67. School of Librarianship, London.	2
68. Schwabe, Mr. B., Basel	2
69. Secretary, All-India Organisation of Industrial Employees.	2
70. Secretary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta	2,768
71. Secretary, Board of Economic Enquiry, Punjab, Lahore	8
72. Secretary, Federation of Indian Commerce and Industry, New Delhi	3
73. Secretary, Indian Chamber of Commerce, Delhi	2
74. Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee, Bombay	11
75. Secretary, Indian Historical Congress, Allahabad	2
76. Secretary, Indian Library Association, Calcutta	3
77. Secretary, Indian National Committee, New Delhi	2
78. Secretary, Institute of Scientific Research, Manchoukou	7
79. Shivananda, Swami, Rikhikesh	6
80. Sisir Kumar Institute, Calcutta	2
81. Slovak Council, Geneva	3
82. Societe Des Nations, Geneva	3
83. Societie Scientia Fennica, Helsingfors	15
84. Stein, Sir A., Baghdad	5
85. Superintendent, Government Printing, Patna	2
86. Superintendent, Government Printing, Allahabad	9
87. Syed Ahmad, Maulana, Lucknow.	2
88. Tata Iron and Steel Co., Bombay	2
89. Tridandi, Swami, Calcutta	2
90. Union International de Chimie, Paris	5
91. Uppsala University, Uppsala	3
92. Vidyabhusan, Mr. A. C., Calcutta	11
93. Westminster Bank, London	3
94. Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta	2
Total	3,282
Other Donors who presented one volume each	180
Total	3,462

APPENDIX III.

Lending Department.

Borrowers.	Years. 1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
Volumes lent to Government Offices . . .	2,498	1,588	782
Volumes lent to Public	9,244	10,300	10,327
Total .	11,742	11,888	11,109

APPENDIX IV.

Statement of books lent, according to Provinces.

Provinces.	1936-37. No. of vols.	1936-37. Percentage.	1937-38. No. of vols.	1937-38. Percentage.	1938-39. No. of vols.	1938-39. Percentage.
Assam	22	·187	..	..	50	·450
Bengal (*excluding* Calcutta) .	1,320	11·241	886	7·452	194	1·746
Bihar	25	·212	15	·126	18	·162
Bombay	111	·945	70	·593	26	·234
Central India . . .	852	7·256	482	4·054	84	·756
Central Provinces . . .	59	·502	35	·297	47	·423
Madras	129	1·098	59	·413	59	·531
N.-W. F. Province . . .	..	..	9	·075	9	·081
Orissa	Included in Bihar above		2	·016	..	..
Punjab	88	·749	62	·521	72	·648
Sind	..	..	..	..	19	·171
United Provinces . . .	156	1·328	141	1·191	168	1·521
Goa	..	..	11	·97	3	·027
Total .	2,763	23·526	1,774	14·851	749	6·750
Calcutta	8,979	76·468	10,114	85·077	10,360	93·257
Grand Total .	11,742	100	11,888	100	11,109	100

APPENDIX V.

Reading Room Statistics.

	Years.		
	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
Number of visitors	50,876	67,534	72,416
Number of books requisitioned from the stack-room	40,879	38,823	41,792

APPENDIX VI.

Detailed figures showing the number of Readers, and books requisitioned from the stack-room, during 1938-39.

	Ordinary working days.			Sundays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Holidays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Days on which the Reading Rooms were closed.
	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	
Total	269	64,902	38,543	49	3,910	1,753	34	3,604	1,496	13
Daily average	..	241	143	..	80	36	...	106	44	..

APPENDIX VII.

Analytical statement by subjects of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.

Subjects.	1936-37. Vols.	1937-38. Vols.	1938-39. Vols.
Administration	1,047	489	705
Agriculture	890	434	724
Archæology	972	495	775
Astronomy	1,032	529	900
Bibliography	704	599	916
Biography	1,464	774	1,189
Biology	807	828	1,008
Botany	730	920	1,109
Chemistry	840	933	1,104
Economics (including Industries, Manufacture)	917	761	962
Education	1,381	1,031	1,209
Engineering	995	1,186	1,440
Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	729	851	1,167
Fine Arts, etc.	685	928	1,155
Folklore, Mythology	702	759	1,089
Geography, Travels and Topography	1,179	1,223	1,264
Geology	933	1,020	1,219
History	1,760	1,313	2,187
Law	1,750	1,644	2,091
Literature	10,989	15,370	10,317
Mathematics	984	917	1,175
Medicine	834	679	1,187
Numismatics	414	357	649
Periodicals	1,675	1,078	1,360
Philology	925	539	828
Philosophy	1,095	720	933
Physics	791	514	638
Religion	1,135	668	825
Science	1,474	654	611
Social Reform	472	317	611
Sports and Games, etc.	419	199	309
Zoology	163	94	136
Total	40,879	38,823	41,792

APPENDIX VIII.

Official Section.

	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
A.—Number of publications, received from various departments of the Central Government and from Provincial Governments, either by purchase, or free of charge.			
1. Central Government	1,278	1,361	1,341
2. Assam	79	68	228
3. Bengal	123	200	187
4. Bihar and Orissa	107	147	233
5. Bombay	200	169	337
6. Burma	176	222	251
7. Central Provinces	184	161	131
8. Madras	44	84	350
9. North-West Frontier Province	65	57	97
10. Punjab	163	151	196
11. United Provinces	105	101	195
12. Indian States	60	56	70
Total	2,604	2,777	3,616
B.—Other publications.			
1. Parliamentary publications and blue books	937	804	944
2. U. S. A. Government documents	1,839	1,923	2,011
3. League of Nations	329	304	285
Total	3,105	3,031	3,240

APPENDIX VIII—*contd.*

Official Section—contd.

C.—Miscellaneous.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
1. Australia			
2. Canada			
3. Ceylon			
4. China			
5. Italy			
6. Malay	239	227	234
7. New Zealand			
8. Philippines			
9. South Africa			
10. West Indies			
Grand Total	5,948	6,035	7,090

APPENDIX IX.

Periodicals received in the Library, during 1938-39.

——	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
Weekly and fortnightly	34	35	33
Monthly	145	146	151
Bi-monthly	6	6	6
Quarterly	81	83	84
Others	80	80	80
Newspapers	22	22	22
Gazettes	14	14	14
Total	382	386	390

APPENDIX X.

Report of the Binding Section for 1938-39.

Years.	Books and Periodicals.	Newspapers and Gazettes.	Total.
1936-37	2,898	99	2,997
1937-38	3,478	91	3,569
1938-39	696	148	844

APPENDIX XI.

Finance.

I.—Receipts.

——	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Sale of Duplicate Tickets . . .	44 0 0	40 0 0	67 0 0
2. Sale of Catalogues	45 12 0	31 4 0	83 1 0
3. Deposits forfeited	10 0 0	9 0 0	..
4. Miscellaneous Receipts . . .	27 15 6	22 4 0	65 10 0
5. Fines realised from borrowers of books	88 7 0	82 3 0	179 11 0
6. Fees realised from students of the Library Training Class.	..	950 0 0	1,500 0 0
Total .	216 2 6	1,134 11 0	1,895 6 0

APPENDIX XI—*contd.*

Finance—contd.

II.—Grant (Final figures).

—	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay of Officer	13,233	13,752	14,390
2. Pay of Establishment	31,200	28,300	26,893
3. Purchase of Books	10,000	10,550	9,050
4. Other Expenses	8,117	6,120	2,092
5. Allowance, Honorarium, etc.	583	1,883	728
Total	58,133	60,605	53,153
Deduct—Amount received from Bengal Government.	16,600	16,600	16,123

III.—Expenditure.

—	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay of Officer	13,232	13,752	14,376
2. Pay of Establishment	31,182	28,298	26,868
3. Purchase of Books, etc.	10,542	8,952	11,258
4. Other Expenses	3,052	5,984	1,956
5. Allowance, Honorarium, etc.	583	1,883	722
Total Expenditure from Budget Grant	58,591	58,869	55,180 (*a*)

(*a*) Rs. 16,123 of the expenditure paid out of the contribution received from Bengal Government.

APPENDIX XII.

Statement showing the number of letters received and issued.

	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.
Receipts	3,955	5,625	4,092
Issues	4,862	5,220	4,088
Reminders for return of books lent . .	393	447	414

MGIPC—S5—III-3-92—18-3-40—500.

LIBRARY
OF THE
BOMBAY
BRANCH
OF THE
ASIATIC SOCIETY

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1939-40.

PRINTED BY MANAGER, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, CALCUTTA
1941

3111
1941
With the compliments of the
Librarian, Imperial Library,
Calcutta.

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1939-40.

I. Period.

The report covers the period from 1st April, 1939 to 31st March, 1940.

II. Accessions.

The total number of publications of all kinds added to the Library during the year 1939-40 was 9,863 as compared with 10,070 during the previous year or 207 less. But, if the number of volumes of old newspapers received from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce be deducted from the figures for both the years, the corresponding figures would be 8,785 and 7,305 respectively, showing an increase of 1,484 for the year under report. A linguistic analysis of the accessions excluding official publications will be found in Appendix 1. Out of the total additions, 1,849 volumes were presented to the library. Of these, 1,646 were in European languages (including 1,078 volumes of old newspapers presented by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce) and 203 in Indian and other Oriental languages. This number does not include the publications received free from the Bengal Library, of which the total this year came to 427. The number of books presented to the Library during the year under report was less by 1,613 as compared with that of the previous year; but excluding the volumes of old newspapers referred to above the total number of presentations in 1939-40 was 74 more than in the previous year. The names of donors of more than one volume are given in Appendix II and the thanks of the Imperial Library Council are due to all the persons, and institutions who so very kindly presented these publications.

Other additions to the library included 6,525 volumes of official publications of the Central and Provincial Governments in India and of certain foreign countries. 219 volumes of journals subscribed to by the library were also bound and added to the library, and 843 publications were purchased. Detailed figures of official publications will be found in Appendix VIII.

The "List of Additions" was supplied to the English and Vernacular Press, as before, and the Library authorities are grateful to the Associated Press of India as well as to such of the papers as are giving publicity to the list, for their courtesy.

III. Shelf-list.

Only seven hundred fifty one volumes could be shelf-listed during the year under report, for which 224 cards were prepared. As the work of compiling the list is taken up only when time permits or a member of the staff can be spared for it, the progress during this year has been rather slow. The collection known as F. D. has, however, now been shelf-listed and work has been started on the C. D. collection.

The total to date of the volumes shelf-listed comes to 168,835 volumes and that of cards written to 80,671.

IV. Cataloguing.

(a) Current.

The total number of publications, excluding official publications and those in certain Indian and Oriental Languages, catalogued during the year was 2,554, for which 6,296 cards and entries were made. These figures show an increase of 1,310 and a decrease of 980 respectively, as compared with the figures for the last year. The total number of new volumes shelf-listed comes to 2,934 and the number of shelf-list cards prepared for them is 989. These figures show an increase of 1,653 and a decrease of 57 respectively, as compared with those of the previous year.

(b) New Catalogues.

Subject Catalogue (2nd Supplement). Printed copies of this catalogue, which was sent to the press in March 1938, were received in December 1939 and quite a number were distributed free among important libraries both in India and abroad.

Author Catalogue. The comparison of the newly compiled catalogue with the existing card catalogue was started in the beginning of the year under report; and entries for letters A-D were scrutinised. There are about 24,000 entries for these four letters. The progress has been rather slow, which is due to many unexpected difficulties coming in the way; *e.g.*, checking the entries with actual books to make sure in doubtful cases of the details of the entries; making fresh cards; bringing together the various editions and volumes of the same book and consequently changing the call-numbers.

The entries for letters A-D have already been sent to the press and about 200 pages of the first proof, up to "Baring", have been corrected and sent back to the press by the end of the year under report. It is expected that two volumes of this catalogue will be out of the press by the end of 1940-41.

V. Lending Section.

In all 10,325 volumes were lent out as against 11,109 in the previous year, showing a decrease of 784. Out of these, 832 were lent

out for official use and 9,493 to the public. The corresponding figures for 1938-39 were 782 and 10,327. The decrease in the number of volumes lent to the public was due to the fact that the library was closed for over a fortnight for stock-taking purposes and no books were lent out during that period.

Appendix III shows the comparative figures for the last three years.

Appendix IV shows the number and percentage of books lent out to various provinces. Calcutta's percentage has gone up still further, for it is now 96 as against 93 last year. Bengal, excluding Calcutta, borrowed only one book out of every hundred as against two in the previous year, while all other provinces combined got only three out of every hundred.

The number of reminders issued during 1939-40 increased to 617 from 414 last year.

A sum of Rs. 12,592-4-0 was deposited by borrowers of books, while a sum of Rs. 12,966-15-6 was withdrawn by them during the year. The total amount in hand on account of deposits on the 31st March 1940 was Rs. 27,314-6-3.

The Imperial Library being a free library does not charge any fee or subscription from those making use of it; but, having regard to certain attempts that were made to defraud the library in certain ways, it was thought advisable to introduce a system of registering the names and particulars of persons wishing to use the library. A set of rules were consequently framed, and the registration system was introduced from the 1st April, 1939. The number of persons who enrolled themselves as members of the Lending Section during this year was 990. Of these 323 subsequently ceased to be members. 667 members remained on the list at the close of the year. The number of persons who had deposited money before 1st April, 1939, but who are not using the library and so did not get themselves registered is 1,093. Taking these into account there are 1,760 deposits in all.

VI. Reading Room.

The Reading Rooms were open for 339 days during the year under report as against 352 days in 1938-39. This number includes 48 Sundays and 37 gazetted holidays when the Rooms were open from 2 to 5 P.M. The Rooms were entirely closed for 27 days as against 13 in the previous year. This was due to the stock-taking of the library which lasted for 17 days when the Reading Rooms had to be entirely closed.

The number of visitors to the Reading Rooms totalled 71,324 during the year. This figure is less than the previous year's by 1,092

and the reason for the decrease is that as explained above the department was opened for a lesser number of days.

The lowest attendance recorded was 3,660 in October and the highest 7,048 in August. The daily average for the year, was 210 as against 206 in 1938-39, and 190 in 1937-38. On an average, therefore, 20 more readers visited the Reading Rooms daily than in 1937-38, which represents an increase of 10 per cent.

A further comparison of the figures of attendance mentioned in Appendix VI under the heads "ordinary working days", "Sundays" and "holidays" with those for the previous two years, shows that the increase in attendance in 1939-40 over the figures for 1938-39 and 1937-38, is in respect of the ordinary working days only; the average figures for the first category were 252, 241 and 210 for the second category 76, 80 and 89; and for the third category 99, 106 and 103, respectively.

The number of books requisitioned from the Stack Room during the year under report was 59,283 with a daily average of 175. This figure does not include the number of volumes consulted by readers and contained in the Reference Collection kept in the open shelves of the Reading Room, to which they have free access. As Appendix V shows, the said figures are higher than the figures for the two previous years by 17,491 and 20,460; or in other words there is an increase of 42 per cent. in the number of requisitions for books over that in 1938-39, and of 52 per cent. over that of 1937-38. This is the highest increase registered in any one year, and taken together with the increased figures of attendance points to a more serious use of the library made during the year under review. In fact, on certain days, an unusual rush of readers was experienced, and it became difficult to provide seats for all who came. The overcrowding was particularly noticeable in the afternoons.

The reference staff of the Reading Room had numerous opportunities for rendering assistance to readers. The reference service was not limited only to answering readers' enquiries and referring them to different books or catalogues. It also included help to readers in locating the required material, and advice as to how to make use of the various sources for finding the required information.

Every library reflects closely the varying interests of its readers and these are set out in Appendix VII, which gives an analysis of the total number of calls for books, according to subjects. Literature has for several years past occupied the foremost position which has been further strengthened this year by an increase of 50 per cent. over that of last year. Its use is five times that of the next subject (History), a fact which is all the more remarkable, when it is realized that the library keeps a negligible proportion of fiction and light works. Like Literature, History and Law have maintained their second and third positions for several years, except in 1937-38, when

this order was reversed. History includes Politics and Constitutional History, and the public's unflagging interest in the subject is understandable, while the reason for Law being so strongly fancied by the readers is that the library attracts a large number of lawyers. Geography and Travels which Engineering had superseded last year, have regained their fourth place; their use in fact has doubled during the last three years and has trebled since 1935-36. Geology too has shown a similar gain of two places and now occupies the fifth position at the expense of periodicals. This is rather surprising, in view of the greater dependence on periodicals under modern conditions which the reference work has indicated in other libraries.

Mathematics has shown a steady increase, for it has risen from the twelfth position in 1936-37 and 1937-38, to ninth in 1938-39, and sixth in this year. The order of the next four subjects is Biography, Administration, Education, and Medicine. The public has, of late years, evinced a keen interest in Biography and the appearance of this subject among the first ten for the second year in succession, (this time registering a further increase of 50%) is noteworthy. The most striking growth however has been in respect of Administration, including both official and non-official publications. From an obscure position which they occupied hitherto, their use has increased to two and a half times that of last year, and to four times that of 1937-38, thus earning for them a place among the first ten subjects. This is probably due to the growing realization by students of Sociology and Useful Arts of the value and wide scope of these documents as a source of information.

Education which occupies ninth place this year is gradually receding into the background, although the reference work in this as in other subjects has heavily increased, the figures for the three years 1937-38 to 1939-40 being 1,031, 1,209 and 1,681 volumes, respectively.

Medicine and Fine Arts have maintained their upward thrust and are now below Education only by a few volumes. The other scientific and technical subjects which have shown consistent progress are Chemistry, Engineering, Botany and Biology. This fact coupled with the one that Geology, Mathematics and Medicine have scored places among the first ten subjects, reflects the determination of the public to study the subjects more and more, although the library pays lesser attention to them so far as the purchase of books is concerned.

Among the subjects least favoured by the public are Physics, Sports, Social Reform and Zoology. The position of certain other subjects from the bottom, such as Numismatics, Philology, Ethnology and Philosophy is more or less unchanged, but each one has secured approximately its share of the total increase in the use of books. Notable changes have occurred, however, in the case of Economics, Science (General), and Religion, each of which has to its credit between 1,200 to 1,500 volumes, as compared with 600 to 900 volumes last year.

2,798 persons enrolled themselves as new members of the Reading Rooms during the year under report. The tickets are valid for three years and this number (which includes renewals) is less than that of last year by 1,267, although the daily average comes to 8 as against 9 of the previous year. The number of daily tickets issued during the same period is 5,549 or 46 less, while the daily average is nearly 17 for this year, as against 16 for the previous year.

The number of research workers admitted to the Private Reading Room during the year was 30 as against 27 last year. These workers came from places as far as Delhi, Bombay, Hyderabad-Deccan, Lucknow, Agra, and Patna, but the majority of them were local residents. The analysis of the subjects on which the library furnished material to these workers is interesting as exemplifying our resources. These included problems in English and Indian literatures, Indian History and Religions, Sport, Philology, Foodstuffs, Exercise and Theatrical work.

The Reference Collection undergoes but slight changes as far as new additions are concerned. The additions are chiefly in respect of new editions of such works as Annuals, Directories, Guides, University Calendars and Year books. In all 79 volumes were added as against 75 last year, while 71 volumes were withdrawn from the stock on account of supersession by later editions or deterioration.

VII. Official Section.

The total number of publications received in this section during the year under report was 6,525. Of these 1,135 were supplied by the various departments of the Government of India and their subordinate and attached offices as against 1,341 last year and 1,339 were received from various Provincial Governments and Indian States, either on payment or free of charge as against 2,024 of last year.

Parliamentary publications and blue-books numbered 891 as against 944 last year, while the United States of America publications out-numbered the previous year's figures by 391, their total being 2,402. The League of Nations supplied 232 or 53 less whereas certain foreign countries and a few dominions and colonies together presented 526 volumes or 41 more. The figures for Burma have been included among the category C—Miscellaneous ; but for the sake of comparison these have been excluded from last year's figures also. The thanks of the Library Council are due to all these Governments for the interest they have exhibited in this library by presenting their valuable publications.

Out of the total number of publications received, 945 American and 1,005 other publications were catalogued while the rest, being serial publications, were dealt with by entering them in progress-slips. 3,190

old American Publications were accessioned and 4,317 (including 1,127 already accessioned) were disposed of by cataloguing and entering in progress-slips during the year. This brings the total of these old U. S. A. publications to a little over 12,000.

The pasting of correction slips is being kept up-to-date.

Comparative figures for this section for the last three years will be found in Appendix VIII.

VIII. Buhar Library.

257 books were added to this section, as against 251 of the previous year. Of these 71 were in Arabic, 62 in Persian and 124 in Urdu. Out of the total additions 154 were purchased (5 less than last year) 11 were received from the Bengal Library and 92 were presentations. The number of persons who used this section was 1,604 as against 1,898 of the previous year. 306 books were lent out. The decrease is possibly due to the library having remained closed for over a fortnight due to stock-taking. The number of bibliographical references supplied was 303. One Research worker from Hyderabad-Deccan was among those who made use of this collection during the year under report. The classification work of the Buhar Collection of printed books was undertaken during this year and the Urdu and Persian collections were classified. The classification of the Arabic collection is going on.

IX. Oriental Section.

487 volumes were added to this section, as against 482 during the previous year, for which 2,570 cards and slips were prepared. There is on the whole an increase of 5 volumes as compared with that of the previous year. Similarly there has been an increase of 50 in the number of volumes purchased, and also an increase of 7 in the number of volumes presented to this section. A statement by languages showing books added is given in Appendix I; and a list of donors of two or more volumes will be found in Appendix II.

Of the total additions, 102 were purchased, as against 52 in the previous year. This number includes 43 Sanskrit, 39 Hindi, 7 Parakrit, 7 Bengali, 2 Gurmukhi, 1 Assamese, 1 Marathi and 2 Tamil works. 272 were received from the Bengal Library; 109 were presented and 4 were replaced by borrowers. The total number of Bengali books added to this section comes to 269, that of Sanskrit to 112, of Hindi to 61 and of other languages to 45, as against 288, 101, 60 and 33 respectively in the previous year.

1,676 cards were prepared and added to the catalogues of different Oriental languages kept in the Reading Room. 1,773 entries were copied on cards for preparing a new Author Catalogue of books in Bengali language. 894 slips were prepared and added to the Sanskrit and Bengali Catalogues which are being compiled for printing. 818

Bibliographical references about Oriental works were supplied to enquirers during the year under review, as against 753 in the previous year. The monthly list of additions to the Oriental Section was regularly published in the local vernacular press.

All the four proofs of the first fifty pages of the Author Catalogue of the Bengali collection, a part of which was sent to the press in October 1938, were corrected and returned to the press. Proofs of the remaining portion are being received in parts.

X. Periodicals.

The total number of papers, Periodicals and Gazettes received at the end of the year was 382. Six Journals (one Newspaper, three monthlies and two quarterlies) were added to the last year's list, two by purchase and four by gift. Nine (one quarterly and eight monthlies) which were being presented to the library ceased to be received. Another five (two newspapers, one Gazette, one monthly and one quarterly) which were being purchased by the library were discontinued.

Those added were :—

W 1. Forward Bloc.
M 2. Immortal message.
M 3. Meher Baba.
Q 4. Indian Journal of Political Science (Subs.)
M 5. Canadian Geographical Journal.
Q 6. Quarterly Journal (Subs.)

Those discontinued were :—

M 1. The Sunday Times. (Pur.)
M 2. The Observer. (Pur.)
W 3. Sind Government Gazette. (Pur.)
M 4. Lloyds Bank monthly Review.
M 5. Aryan Path.
M 6. Revue of Applied Entomology.
M 7. Rotarian.
M 8. Ubersee Post.
M 9. Westminster Bank Review.
M 10. Demag news.
M 11. Biblio. (Pur.)
M 12. National Reconstruction.
Q 13. Theosophical Quarterly.
Q 14. South African Journal of Economics. (Pur.)

XI. Care of books and binding.

2,463 volumes were sent for binding to the Government of India Press, Calcutta, during the year under review, as compared with 844 of the last year. Comparative figures for three years will be found in Appendix X. The increase was possible because the press could accept more work during 1939-40. Of these volumes, 1,739 were received back, duly bound, till the beginning of the year 1940-41.

The need for more shelf-space continues, especially in respect of accommodation for old newspapers, most of which are lying on the ground, at present.

XII. Weeding.

990 German fiction works referred to in the Report for the year 1937-38 having been sanctioned by the Council in their meeting held on the 26th October 1938, to be discarded were distributed during 1939-40 among the various libraries entitled to receive them.

A list of duplicate Official publications consisting of 185 items and comprising about 700 volumes was placed before the Council at their meeting held on the 4th October, 1939 when they agreed to the publications in question being discarded. A printed list of these was consequently circulated among the libraries eligible to receive the spare publications of this library.

XIII. Administration.

Library Council: The Council's personnel remained the same as in the previous year. It met, as usual, once during the year, on the 4th October, 1939, when the necessary business was transacted.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee was once more elected Vice-Chairman of the Council, for one year, at the aforesaid meeting of the Council.

XIV. Finance.

Detailed and comparative figures pertaining to this head will be found in Appendix XI. The total receipts from miscellaneous sources amounted to Rs. 1,780-3-6, out of which a sum of Rs. 1,500 was realised as fees from the students of the Library Training Class. The rest of the amount was derived from sources like sale of duplicate tickets, sale of catalogues, and fines realised for late return of library books by borrowers, etc.

The decrease under Pay of Establishment was due to the retirement of old incumbents drawing higher rates of pay and the recruitment of new hands on lower salary.

The figures for purchase of books included an expenditure of Rs. 500 for printing another portion of Tarikh-e-Herat.

XV. Audit of Library Accounts.

The accounts of the Library for the year 1938-39 were audited in November, 1939. The report was not received till the end of the year under review.

XVI. Office.

The total number of letters received and despatched was 4,497 and 5,000 respectively. The receipts showed a decrease of 195 while the issues showed an increase of 312, when compared with the figures for the previous year. In addition to this, 617 reminders were despatched to recover overdue books. Comparative figures for the last three years are given in Appendix XII.

The total number of cases recorded and indexed during the year under report was 866, as compared with 509 of the previous year. The work was not up to date at the end of the year.

XVII. Stock-taking.

Although the checking of a portion of the stock for the purpose of bringing out a revised edition of the Author Catalogue was undertaken in 1938-39, the Library Council, on a reconsideration of the matter, decided to hold a fresh stock-taking during the year under review as otherwise the discrepancies discovered as a result of the said checking would have taken rather a long time to be finally reconciled. Consequently the book-portion of the library excluding the Bengali books was duly checked from the 23rd January to the 7th February, 1940. The remaining portion will have to be checked at a later date.

XVIII. Library Training Class.

As indicated in the last report, the Third Library Training class was started on the 1st of April and closed at the end of September 1939. The class consisted, as usual, of twenty students selected out of over one hundred applicants for admission.

The selected candidates included sixteen librarians and only four outsiders. Of these seven came from Bengal, five from the United Provinces, two each from Delhi and Bombay, one each from Bihar and the Punjab and two from Indian States.

By communities, there were ten Hindus, eight Muslims, and two Indian Christians.

Of these twenty, fifteen passed the examination, seven obtaining "Distinction". The names of the successful candidates are given below :—

Order of merit.	Name of candidate.	Remarks.
1	N. A. Dalal	Distinction.
2	Megnanand	Do.
3	Md. Ishtiaq Ansari	Do.
4	Nutbehari Chaudhuri	Do.
5	Ahmad Shuja	Do.
	Dhanpat Rai	
6	Wilfred N. David	Do.
7	G. L. Shipstone	Passed.
8	K. G. Bhagwat	Do.
9	A. K. Roy	Do.
10	Syed Jamil Ahmad Naqvi	Do.
11	Jatindra Nath Bhattacharjee	Do.
12	Prafulla Kumar Sarkar	Do.
13	Ajodha Prasad	Do.
14	Malik Nazir Ahmad	Do.

Having regard to the large number of applicants who could not get admission to the Third Library Training Class, the Council of the Library decided to open another class in 1940, instead of in 1941. This class started from the 1st March 1940. The number of applicants for admission was 50 out of whom 20 were selected. Of these eleven were persons already working in libraries and nine were outsiders. The number of admitted candidates from various provinces is given below :—

Bengal 9; U. P. 3; Bihar 1; Delhi 1; C. P. 2; Punjab 1; N.-W. F. P. 1; Indian States 2. Out of them four were Muslims, one Indian Christian, and fifteen Hindus.

APPENDIX I.

Linguistic Analysis of books added to the Library.

Language.	Year. 1937-38.	Year. 1938-39.	Year. 1939-40.
1. Arabic	58	60	71
2. Assamese	4	4	7
3. Bengali	330	288	269
4. Burmese	..	3	..
5. Canarese	..	..	1
6. Chinese	..	..	10
7. Danish	5	12	18
8. Dutch	14	2	10
9. English	1,798	1,349	2,431
10. Finnish	7	5	8
11. French	35	33	33
12. German	52	46	28
13. Greek	..	..	6
14. Gujrati	5	5	1
15. Halbi	1	..	..
16. Hindi	53	60	61
17. Italian	50	6	4
18. Japanese	..	..	6
19. Javanese	1	..	2
20. Latin	17	..	10
21. Malayalam	3	..	1
22. Marathi	2	1	5
23. Mikir	..	..	1
24. Nepali	2	..	5
25. Pahlavi	..	1	..
26. Pali	8	6	2
27. Persian	30	50	62
28. Prakrit	..	2	9
29. Punjabi	..	1	4
30. Russian	4	..	2
31. Sanskrit	139	101	112
32. Spanish	10	26	24
33. Swedish	2	1	8
34. Tamil	2	1	5
35. Telugu	1	..	1
36. Tibetan	..	9	1
37. Urdu	101	84	124
Total	2,734	2,156	3,342

APPENDIX II.

List of Donors of Books.

Donors.	No. of Vols.
1. Academia-de-la historia de Cuba, Habana . . .	4
2. Adhikari, Mr. R. C., Calcutta .	2
3. Ahmad Murtaza, Nayar, Saronj (Malwa)	2
4. Al-Hilal. Cairo (Egypt) . . .	2
5. Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta	1,078
6. Bhattacharya, Mr. V. K., Calcutta	2
7. Biblioteca Del Poder Legislative, Montevidio . .	4
8. Board of Economic Enquiry, Punjab, Lahore . . .	3
9. Bose, Mr. A. N., Calcutta .	9
10. British Academy, London .	2
11. British Museum, London. .	10
12. British Rubber Publicity Association, London . . .	5
13. Chase National Bank, New York	4
14. Consulate General for Japan, Calcutta	2
15. Council of International Office, Chungking	4
16. Datta, Mr. Y. N., Calcutta .	3
17. De, Mr. G. C., Calcutta . .	2
18. Direccion de Knsenanza Primaria, Montevidio . .	2
19. Director General of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta . .	4
20. Director of Oriental Institute, Baroda	10
21. Dugin, Mr. M. L. S., C/o. French Consulate General, Calcutta .	2
22. Dvivedi, Mr. S., Calcutta .	2
23. Educational Policies Commission, Washington . .	2
24. Education, Health and Lands, Department of Government of India, New Delhi . .	12
25. Gandhi, Mr. M. P., Calcutta .	5
26. Geological Survey of India, Calcutta	92
27. Gode, Mr. P. K., Poona . .	2
28. Government of Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico	21
29. Huntington Library, California.	4
30. Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta	4
31. Indian Cotton Committee, Bombay	8
32. Indian Library Association, Calcutta	5
33. Institute of Scientific Research, Manchoukuo . . .	6
34. Jaipur State, Jaipur . .	4
35. Jamiah Milliyyah Islamiyyah, Delhi	3
36. Kegl Danske Videnskabernes Selskab, Kopenhavn . .	19
37. Koninklijh Bataviasch, Batavia	10
38. Laboratory of Paleontology, U. S. S. R.	2
39. Library of Congress, Washington	2
40. Library Academy, Kabul .	22
41. Manager of Publications, Delhi.	5
42. Mutsuddi, Mr. V. L., Chittagong	2

APPENDIX II—*contd.*

List of Donors of Books—contd.

Donors.	No. of Vols.
43. National Library of Peiping, Peiping	4
44. Nizamat Jang, Nawab, Sir, Hyderabad	2
45. Osmania University Translation Bureau, Hyderabad	36
46. Parsi Panchayat Funds and Property, Bombay	4
47. Pithawala, Mr. M. B., Karachi	6
48. Recyler, Mr. L., Belgique	2
49. Registrar, Allahabad University, Allahabad	3
50. Registrar, Andhra University, Waltair	2
51. Registrar, Annamalai University, Annamalai	2
52. Registrar, Bombay University, Bombay	2
53. Registrar, Calcutta University, Calcutta	48
54. Registrar, Dacca University, Dacca	2
55. Registrar, John Hopkins University, Baltimore	6
56. Registrar, Lucknow University, Lucknow	2
57. Registrar, Madras University, Madras	15
58. Registrar, Mcgill University, Montreal	2
59. Registrar, Minessota University, U. S. A.	2
60. Registrar, Nagpur University, Nagpur	4
61. Registrar, Rangoon University, Rangoon	5
62. Registrar, Uppsala University, Uppsala	6
63. Roy, Mr. R. P., Calcutta	2
64. Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal, Calcutta	17
65. Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay Branch of the, Bombay	2
66. Sharma, Mr. B. R., Calcutta	3
67. Shephard, Dr. C., Calcutta	104
68. Societie Scientia Fennica, Helsingfors	8
69. Stein, Sir A., Baghdad	4
70. Superintendent, Government Printing, Allahabad	9
71. Susetaria Rebaciones Exterreores, Mexico	4
72. Thomson College of Civil Engineering, Roorki	4
73. Vidyabhusan, Mr. A. C., Calcutta	7
74. Visvabharati, Santiniketan, Bolpur	8
75. Vivas, Mr. Y. N., Calcutta	5
76. Yusuf Ali, Mr. A., London	2
Total	1,727
Other Donors who presented one volume each	122
Total	1,849

APPENDIX III.

Lending Department.

Borrowers.	Years. 1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
Volumes lent to Government Offices . . .	1,588	782	832
Volumes lent to Public	10,300	10,327	9,493
Total .	11,888	11,109	10,325

APPENDIX IV.

Statement of books lent, according to Provinces.

Provinces.	1937-38. No. of vols.	1937-38. Percentage.	1938-39. No. of vols.	1938-39. Percentage.	1939-40. No. of vols.	1939-40. Percentage.
Assam	..	..	50	·45	31	·3
Bengal (*excluding* Calcutta) .	886	7·452	194	1·746	75	·726
Bihar	15	·126	18	·162	11	·107
Bombay	70	·593	26	·234	61	·590
Central India	482	4·054	84	·756	47	·455
Central Provinces . . .	35	·297	47	·423	20	·194
Madras	59	·413	59	·531	59	·571
N.-W. F. Province . . .	9	·075	9	·081	9	·087
Orissa	2	·016	..	..	..	..
Punjab	62	·521	72	·648	52	·504
Sind	..	..	19	·171	3	·029
United Provinces . . .	141	1·191	168	1·521	69	·668
Burma, Andamans, Goa, etc. .	11	·97	3	·027	4	·039
Total .	1,774	14·851	749	6·750	441	4·270
Calcutta	10,114	85·077	10,360	93·257	9,884	95·730
Grand Total .	11,888	100	11,109	100	10,325	100

APPENDIX V.

Reading Room Statistics.

	Years.		
	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
Number of visitors	67,534	72,416	71,324
Number of books requisitioned from the Stack Room	38,823	41,792	59,283

APPENDIX VI.

Detailed figures showing the number of Readers, and books requisitioned from the Stack Room, during 1939-40.

	Ordinary working days.			Sundays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Holidays on which the Reading Rooms were open.			Total number of days on which the Reading Rooms were closed.
	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	No. of days.	No. of Readers.	No. of Requisitions.	
Total	254	64,040	54,532	48	3,639	2,577	37	3,645	2,174	27
Daily average . . .	..	252	215	..	76	54	..	99	59	..

APPENDIX VII.

Analytical statement by subjects of books requisitioned from the Stack Room.

Subject.	1937-38. Vols.	1938-39. Vols.	1939-40. Vols.
Administration	489	705	1,773
Agriculture	434	724	1,067
Archæology	495	775	1,136
Astronomy	529	900	1,012
Bibliography	599	916	922
Biography	774	1,159	1,867
Biology	828	1,008	1,276
Botany	920	1,109	1,387
Chemistry	933	1,104	1,524
Economics including Finance & Trade	761	962	1,443
Education	1,031	1,209	1,681
Engineering including Industries and Manufactures	1,186	1,440	1,441
Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	851	1,167	955
Fine Arts, etc.	928	1,155	1,618
Folklore, Mythology, etc.	759	1,089	1,096
Geography Travels & Topography	1,223	1,264	2,384
Geology	1,020	1,219	2,094
History	1,313	2,187	3,377
Law	1,644	2,091	2,650
Literature	15,370	10,317	16,557
Mathematics	917	1,175	1,939
Medicine	679	1,187	1,663
Numismatics	357	649	876
Periodicals, and Newspapers	1,078	1,360	984
Philology	539	828	916
Philosophy	720	933	1,089
Physics	514	638	767
Religion	668	825	1,496
Science, general	654	641	1,253
Social Reform, etc.	317	611	300
Sports and games, etc.	199	309	537
Zoology	94	136	203
Total	38,823	41,792	59,283

APPENDIX VIII.

Official Section.

	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
A.—Total number of publications supplied by the Central and Provincial Governments—			
1. Central Government	1,361	1,341	1,135
2. Assam	68	228	102
3. Bengal	200	187	255
4. Bihar and Orissa	147	233	261
5. Bombay	169	337	171
6. Central Provinces	161	131	141
7. Madras	84	350	75
8. North-West Frontier Province	57	97	73
9. Punjab	151	196	75
10. United Provinces	101	195	116
11. Indian States	56	70	70
Total	2,555	3,365	2,474
B.—Other publications—			
1. Parliamentary publications and blue books	804	944	891
2. U. S. A. Government documents	1,923	2,011	2,402
3. League of Nations	304	285	232
Total	3,031	3,240	3,525

APPENDIX VIII—*contd.*

Official Section—contd.

	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
C.—Miscellaneous—			
1. Australia 2. Burma 3. Canada 4. Ceylon 5. China 6. Italy 7. Malay 8. New Zealand 9. Philippines 10. South Africa 11. West Indies	449	485	526
Total	449	485	526
Grand Total	6,035	7,090	6,525

APPENDIX IX.

Periodicals received in the Library.

	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
Weekly and Fortnightly.	35	33	33
Monthly	146	151	145
Bi-monthly	6	6	6
Quarterly	83	84	84
Others	80	80	80
Newspapers	22	22	21
Gazettes	14	14	13
Total	386	390	382

APPENDIX X.

Publications bound.

Years.	Books and Periodicals.	Newspapers and Gazettes.	Total.
1937-38	3,478	91	3,569
1938-39	696	148	844
1939-40	2,322	141	2,463

APPENDIX XI.

Finance

I.—Receipts.

	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.
1. Sale of Duplicate Tickets	40 0 0	67 0 0	55 0 0
2. Sale of Catalogues	31 4 0	83 1 0	31 13 0
3. Deposits forfeited	9 0 0	..	3 9 0
4. Miscellaneous Receipts	22 4 0	65 10 0	68 11 0
5. Fines realised from borrowers of books	82 3 0	179 11 0	121 2 0
6. Fees realised from students of the Library Training Class	950 0 0	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0
Total	1,134 11 0	1,895 6 0	1,780 3 6

APPENDIX XI—*contd.*

II.—Grant (Final figures).

—	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay of Officer	13,752	14,390	14,970
2. Pay of Establishment	28,300	26,893	23,600
3. Purchase of Books, etc.	10,550	9,050	10,300
4. Other Expenses	6,120	2,092	2,910
5. Allowance, Honorarium, etc.	1,883	728	1,490
Total	60,605	53,153	53,270
Deduct—Amount received from Bengal Government.	16,600	16,123	16,000

III.—Expenditure.

—	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pay of Officer	13,752	14,376	14,969
2. Pay of Establishment	28,298	26,868	23,467
3. Purchase of Books, etc.	8,952	11,258	8,956
4. Other Expenses	5,984	1,956	2,845
5. Allowance, Honorarium, etc.	1,883	722	1,489
Total	58,869	55,180	51,726

APPENDIX XII.

Statement showing the number of letters received and issued.

	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
Receipts	5,625	4,692	4,497
Issues	5,220	4,688	5,000
Reminders for return of books lent	447	414	617

MGIPC—S5—III-3-77—15-4-41—450.

MAR 1 1 1943

LIBRARY
OF THE
BOMBAY
BRANCH
OF THE
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta

For the Year

1940-41

CALCUTTA: PRINTED BY THE MANAGER
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS: 1942

Report on the Working of the Imperial Library, Calcutta, for the year 1940-41.

I. Accessions.

The total number of all kinds of publications added to the library during this year was 9,544 only, as compared with 9,863 of the previous year, or 319 less. This number includes 954 volumes of old newspapers received from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce some time back, but accessioned during this year. The decrease in accessions is due to a lesser number of publications having been received both from foreign book-sellers and through the High Commissioner for India, due to the war. A linguistic analysis of the accessions excluding official publications is given in Appendix I. The total additions include 1,403 volumes presented to the library, or 446 less; of which 1,203 books are in European languages (including 954 volumes of newspapers), and 200 in Indian and other Oriental languages. The total of presentations does not include the publications received free from the Bengal library, of which the total this year comes to 467 as against 427 of last year. The names of donors have to be reluctantly omitted. The thanks of the Imperial Library Council are, however, due to all the persons and institutions who kindly donated these publications.

Other additions to the library include 6,544 volumes of official publications of the Central and Provincial Governments in India and of certain foreign countries, detailed figures for which will be found in Appendix IV. The total accessions also include 370 bound volumes of journals subscribed to by the library, and 760 volumes of publications bought during the year under report.

II. Lending Section.

In all 12,076 volumes were lent out during the year under report as against 10,325 of the previous year, showing an increase of 1,751. Out of these, 853 were lent out for official use, while 11,223 were borrowed by the reading public. The corresponding figures for the year 1939-40 were 832 and 9,493, or in other words, there was an increase of 21 and 1,730 respectively in the two categories.

Appendix II shows the number and percentage of books lent out during the year to various provinces. Calcutta's percentage has gone down slightly, which is now 95 as against 96 of last year. The percentage of Bengal, excluding Calcutta, is practically the same as in the previous year, while all other provinces combined obtained only four books out of every hundred lent out, which shows an increase of one per cent over the last year. The number of reminders issued during 1940-41 increased to 1,012 from 617 of the previous year.

A sum of Rs. 15,547-6 was deposited by borrowers of books, while a sum of Rs. 11,509-7 was withdrawn by them during the year. The total amount in hand on account of deposits on the 31st March, 1941, was Rs. 31,351-5-3 which amount is greater by Rs. 4,036-15 than last year's.

The number of persons who enrolled themselves as members of the Lending Section during this year was 738. 671 persons withdrew their membership and thus 734 persons were members at the end of the year 1940-41, or 67 more than last year.

III. Reading Rooms.

During the year under report, the Reading Rooms were opened for 354 days as against 339 days in 1939-40. This number includes 51 Sundays and 30 other holidays, when the rooms were opened from 2 to 5 p.m., while those were entirely closed for eleven days.

The total number of visitors who frequented the Reading Rooms was 75,541. The figures for ordinary working days being 69,152, for Sundays 3,459 and for other holidays 2,930. The total number exceeds the figure for the previous year by 4,217. The lowest attendance recorded was 3,675 in October, and the highest was 6,663 in July. The daily average of visitors for the year comes to 213 as compared with 210 of the last year.

Apart from books consulted by readers out of the Reference Collection kept in the Reading Room, requisitions for 58,983 books from the Stack were made, yielding an average of 167 books per day. This is less by 300 volumes only as compared with the previous year. Appendix III which gives an analysis by subjects of the books consulted reflects the taste of the reading public. Literature, History and Law have continued to occupy the first three places during the past three years in succession, which shows their popularity. A further examination of these figures reveals that whereas the use of Literature has increased by 20 per cent. over 1939-40, the use of History has remained more or less the same. Next to Law comes Geography and Travel which have retained their fourth place in the table, although the number of volumes consulted has decreased by 363. Education which had receded into the back-ground and occupied ninth place last year, has made a welcome return to the fifth position. Similarly, from obscure positions which the next two subjects, Administration and Economics held until two years back, they have advanced sufficiently to claim sixth and seventh positions this year at the expense of Mathematics and Biography. The next position in the table (eighth) is held by Medicine which is below Economics only by 13 volumes. This is another subject which has maintained its upward thrust. The order of the next two subjects is Geology (ninth), and Biography (tenth). Geology has come down four places having ex-

changed its position with Education, and Biography has gone down by three. Other subjects which have shown an upward tendency are: Ethnology, Agriculture, Archæology, Astronomy, Biology, Engineering and Numismatics.

Among the other scientific subjects it is noticed that Mathematics, Botany, Chemistry, and Science (General) have registered a sharp decrease in the number of volumes consulted during the year under report; but this number is still higher than the corresponding figures for 1938-39.

3,215 persons were admitted as new members of the Reading Rooms as against 2,798 of the previous year, or 417 more. The number of Day-tickets issued during the same period on the other hand shows a marked decrease, *i.e.*, 2,815 as against 5,549 of last year.

The number of research students who utilised the facilities of the Private Reading Rooms was 47. This shows an increase of 17 over last year. Some of these readers came from places like Jaipur, Hyderabad-Deccan, Allahabad, Lucknow, and Benares, while the rest were local residents.

No separate figures are kept of the visitors frequenting the Ladies' Room, but it is believed that greater use was made of this room than before.

In the year under review, 125 volumes were added to the Reading Room collection as against 79 of last year, while the number of volumes withdrawn on account of supersession by later editions or better works and deterioration, was only 40.

IV. Official Section.

The total number of official publications received during the year was 6,544, or 19 more than the previous year. Of these, 957 were supplied by the various departments of the Government of India and their subordinate and attached offices, as against 1,135 of last year; while 1,247 or 92 less were received from various Provincial Governments and Indian States either on payment or free of charge.

Parliamentary publications and blue-books numbered 539 as against 891 of last year, while the U. S. A. publications exceeded the previous year's figures by 810, their total being 3,212. The League of Nations supplied only 65 publications or 167 less whereas certain foreign countries and a few Dominions and Colonies together presented 524 volumes or 2 less.

Detailed figures for the year under report pertaining to this section will be found in Appendix IV.

V. Buhar Library.

273 books or 16 more were added to this section as against 257 of the previous year. Of these, 84 were in Arabic, 53 in Persian and 136 in Urdu. Out of the total additions 187 were purchased, 44 were received from the Bengal Library, and 42 as gifts. The number of persons who made use of this section was 1,623 as against 1,604 of the previous year. 397 books were lent out, while 279 bibliographical references were supplied. The classification of the printed Arabic books and the cataloguing of printed Urdu books of the Buhar Collection was finished.

VI. Oriental Section.

591 volumes were added to this section, as against 487 during the previous year, for which 1,865 cards and slips were prepared. The total increase comes to 104 volumes.

Of the additions, 112 were purchased, as against 102 of the previous year ; 320 or 48 more were received from the Bengal Library ; 158 or 49 more were presented ; while one was replaced by a borrower. The total number of Bengali books added to this section comes to 319 or 50 more ; that of Sanskrit to 101 or 11 less ; of Hindi to 78 or 17 more and of those in other languages to 93 or 48 more as against 269, 112, 61 and 45 respectively of the previous year.

1,272 cards were prepared and 2,950 entries were copied on cards in connection with the new Author Catalogue of books in Bengali language. 593 slips were prepared and added to the Bengali and Sanskrit Catalogues which are being compiled for printing. 788 bibliographical references were supplied to enquirers.

VII. Periodicals.

The total number of papers, periodicals and gazettes received at the end of the year was 379, or three less than last year. Eight journals (one fortnightly, four monthlies, one quarterly and two weekly gazettes) were added to the previous list, of which five were purchased and three were received as gifts. Seven journals (one weekly, five monthlies, and one quarterly) which were being presented to the library, ceased to be received, while another four (one fortnightly, two monthlies and one quarterly) which were being purchased by the library had to be dropped from the list.

Those added were :—

Indian Information ; Current Biography (Subs.) ; Indian Farming ; Mysore Information Bulletin ; Twentieth Century (Subs.) ; Indian Journal of Social Work (Subs.) ; Bombay Government Gazette (Subs.) ; Sind Government Gazette (Subs.).

Those discontinued were:

Forward Block ; Revue des deux Mondes (Subs.) ; British Trade Journal ; Journal des Sevants (Subs.) ; Landholders' Journal ; Philips Technical Review ; Indiana (Subs.) ; Genuine Islam ; Indian Medical Record ; Philips Transmitting News ; Le Revue des arts Asiatiques (Subs.).

VIII. Care of books and binding.

2,037 volumes were sent for binding to the Government of India Press, Calcutta, during the year under review as compared with 2,463 of last year. The decrease was due to the inability of the Press to accept more work, due to pressure of other work. Out of the 2,037 volumes sent, 1,694 had been received back, duly bound, by the beginning of the year 1941-42.

IX. Weeding.

A list of publications comprising about 600 volumes was placed before the Council at their meeting held on the 26th November, 1940, which they agreed to discard.

X. Administration.

Library Council.—There was no change in the personnel of the Council. It met, as usual, once during the year, on the 26th November, 1940, under the Presidency of the Vice-President, as the President was unable to attend owing to other important official work in New Delhi.

Dr. Syamaprasad Mookerjee was once more re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for one year.

XI. Finance.

Apart from the Government grants, the total receipts from miscellaneous sources amounted to Rs. 513-10-3 only. The total expenditure on purchase of books was Rs. 9,554 including a sum of Rs. 570 spent on the printing of another portion of Tarikh-e-Herat. The corresponding figures for 1939-40 were—Miscellaneous Receipts : Rs. 280-3-6 ; Expenditure on Purchase of Books : Rs. 8,956-0-0.

XII. Audit of Library Accounts.

The accounts of the Library for the year 1939-40 were audited in October, 1940. The report was considered by the Library Council in their meeting held in November of that year. Out of the three

suggestions made in the audit report that relating to the verification of the deposit money with the balance in the Bank was accepted; whereas the other two were negatived.

XIII. Stock-taking.

The second stock-taking of about half the library was held in the beginning of 1940, and its result was considered by the Library Council in their last meeting. Out of about 800 books found not traceable at the time of checking, about half were still not forthcoming. As a number of these were expected to be traceable, the Council deferred their final decision in the matter to their next meeting.

XIV. Library Training Class.

The Fourth Library Training Class which was started on the 1st of March, 1940, closed at the end of August, 1940. Two students did not take up the examination, while four could not qualify. None obtained Distinction. The names of successful candidates are given below, in order of merit.

1. Debi Kumar Goswami; 2. Nisha Nath Chatterjee; 3. Bimalendu Majumdar; 4. Sh. Abdul Hamid; 5. Laxman Keshao Gorey; 6. Benoyendra Sen Gupta; 7. Narayan Chandra Chakraverty; 8. Tarakeshwar Lahiri; 9. Rafiuddin Ahmad and Pashupati Mukherji; 10. T. T. Ukkuru; 11. Nazar Husain; 12. Jagannath Mukherjee; and 13. Ganga Prasad Gildiyal.

APPENDIX I.

Linguistic Analysis of books added to the Library during 1940-41.

1. Arabic	84	21. Marathi	18
2. Assamese	7	22. Mikir	..
3. Bengali	319	23. Nepali	8
4. Burmese	2	24. Pahlavi	..
5. Canarese	9	25. Pali	11
6. Chinese	..	26. Persian	53
7. Danish	1	27. Portuguese	1
8. Dutch	4	28. Prakrit	4
9. English	2,066	29. Punjabi	3
10. Finish	..	30. Russian	1
11. French	26	31. Sanskrit	101
12. German	7	32. Santali	1
13. Greek	4	33. Spanish	10
14. Gujrati	20	34. Swedish	2
15. Hindi	78	35. Tamil	2
16. Italian	2	36. Telegu	5
17. Japanese	5	37. Tibetan	3
18. Javanese	..	38. Urdu	136
19. Latin	4	39. Uriya	3
20. Malayalam	..		3,000

APPENDIX II.

LENDING SECTION.

Statement of books lent, according to Provinces during 1940-41.

Provinces.	No. of vols.	Percentage.
Assam	32	·265
Bengal (excluding Calcutta)	72	·596
Bihar	39	·324
Bombay	58	·480
Central India	61	·505
Central Provinces	33	·273

APPENDIX II—*contd.*

LENDING SECTION—*contd.*

Statement of books lent, according to Province during 1940-41—contd.

Provinces.	No. of vols.	Percentage.
Madras	76	·629
N.-W. F. Province	3	·025
Orissa	4	·033
Punjab	115	·952
Sind	21	·174
United Provinces	94	·778
Burma, Andamans, Goa, etc.	..	..
Total	608	5·035
Calcutta	11,468	94·965
Grand Total	12,076	100

APPENDIX III.

Analytical statement by subjects of books requisitioned from the Stack Room during 1940-41.

Subject.	Vols.	Subject.	Vols.
Administration	1,811	Geology	1,608
Agriculture	1,346	History	2,545
Archaeology	1,198	Law	2,309
Astronomy	1,099	Literature	19,994
Bibilography	757	Mathematics	1,428
Biography	1,570	Medicine	1,751
Biology	1,484	Numismatics	923
Botany	1,198	Periodicals and Newspapers	846
Chemistry	1,177	Philology	607
Economics including Finance and Trade	1,764	Philosophy	838
Education	1,815	Physics	613
Engineering including Industries and Manufactures	1,617	Religion	1,191
Ethnology, Anthropology, etc.	1,516	Science, general	734
Fine Arts, etc.	1,232	Social Reform, etc.	614
Folklore, Mythology, etc.	662	Sports and games, etc.	474
Geography, Travel and Topography	2,021	Zoology	241
			58,983

APPENDIX IV.

Official Section.

A.—*Total number of publications supplied by the Central and Provincial Governments during 1940-41.*		B.—*Other Publications.*		
1. Central Government	957	1. Parliamentary publications and Blue-books	539	
2. Assam Government	97	2. U. S. A. Government publications	3,212	
3. Bengal Government	201	3. League of Nations	65	
4. Bihar & Orissa Government	181	Total	3,816	
5. Bombay Government	95	C.—*Miscellaneous.*		
6. Central Provinces Government	95	1. Australia	524	
7. Madras Government	68	2. Burma		
8. North-West Frontier Province Government	76	3. Canada		
9. Punjab Government	134	4. Ceylon		
10. Sind Government	46	5. China		
11. United Provinces Government	176	6. Italy		
12. Indian States Government	78	7. Malay		
		8. New Zealand		
		9. Philippines		
		10. South Africa		
		11. West Indies		
Total	2,204	Total	524	
GRAND TOTAL A, B & C				6,544

MGIPC—83—III-3-19—25-11-42—300.

00135373

Digitized with financial assistance from

Government of Maharashtra

on 01 February, 2020